



San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: La Jolla Tribal Government Fraud / Forgery Case

Date of Release: October 29, 2018

Time of Release: 10:00 am

Media Contact: Sergeant Russell Ryan

Email Address of Contact: Russell.Ryan@sdsheriff.org

Telephone Number of Contact: (760)751-4426

Provider of Information (if different):

SYNOPSIS:

Between August 17 and August 29, 2018, unknown suspect(s) began cashing forged checks with a bank and routing number which belongs to the La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indian government. It appeared the information had been obtained by the suspect(s) through mail theft and the total known loss is about \$6,000.

Through investigative leads, Detective Joe Culver was able to identify 31 year-old Michael Reyna as the suspect who had cashed multiple checks through Riverside and San Diego County. Initial attempts to contact Reyna were unsuccessful as his whereabouts were unknown.

On October 25, 2018, Deputy Matt Shull investigated a case in which 48 year-old Barry Liersch used a fraudulent check for about \$1800 at Valley Center Foods. Later in the evening, Michael Reyna attempted to use another check with the same information on it at Valley Center Foods in the amount of about \$800.

On October 26, 2018, Deputy Shull located Liersch and Reyna at the Pala Casino. A third subject, 18 year-old Andrew Coronado, was also contacted and found to be in possession of another fraudulent check made payable to Valley Center Foods. All three subjects were arrested for fraud and conspiracy along with other narcotic related offenses and booked at the Vista Jail. Reyna was also additionally booked on the La Jolla Tribal Government fraud case.

If you have further information on this case, please contact Det. Joe Culver at the Valley Center Sheriff's Station: (760) 751-4400 or call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information leading to a felony arrest.