

**COLORADO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT
CONTINUATION/SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT**

CASE REPORT NUMBER 01-26763

OFFENSE FORGERY (F) (C)	STATUTE NUMBER 18-5-102	UCR RECLASSIFICATION TO:	UCR CODE			
VICTIM'S NAME (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE) STATE OF COLORADO		DATE OF THIS REPORT 09/05/01				
ARRESTEE NAME (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE)	RES ADD: CITY & STATE:	RACE	SEX	AGE	DOB	
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This case report supplement affects C.S.P.D. case reports #01-26763, #01-28696, and #01-29964.

OFFICER'S STATEMENT: On 09/05/01, at approximately 3:30 p.m., I (Detective R.G. Newbury Jr., 1338D) received a telephone call and page from the department's Channel #3 dispatcher and Sandcreek Officer Lamberth. Upon contact, Officer Lamberth advised that officers had been dispatched to the Kiosk Spring Communications store (located at [REDACTED] within the City of Colorado Springs, County of El Paso, and State of Colorado) regarding a suspicious circumstance. A copy of the computer call-screen is attached to the Investigations Section copy of this case supplement for reference purposes.

He stated that upon officers arrival, they met with employees who advised that a suspect (later identified as Bradley Q. Ridges, DOB: [REDACTED]) had entered their store, impersonated himself as Gary Petty, and attempted to open cellular telephone accounts. Officer Lamberth stated that they had the suspect detained and had identified him as Mr. Ridges.

Officer Lamberth stated that the store employee(s) advised him that I was working a related case investigation involving similar activities and so he contacted me to see if I had any special instructions for him (i.e., was I working an Arrest Warrant, was there enough to arrest Suspect Ridges on my case investigation(s), etc).

I advised Officer Lamberth that I had compiled a 41.1 (Order for Non-Testimonial Evidence) and was actually getting ready to walk it over to the courthouse for approval/signature by a Judge at the time of his call/page.

I asked Officer Lamberth if they had enough information at that point to arrest/charge Suspect Ridges with any criminal charge(s). He stated that he did not believe they did.

I then asked Officer Lamberth to ask Suspect Ridges if he would agree to voluntary to come to the Police Operations Center (POC) for an interview with me. I overheard Officer Lamberth ask Suspect Ridges this same question and heard Suspect Ridges say that he would do so. Officer Antonio then transported Suspect Ridges to the P.O.C. for this interview.

While Suspect Ridges was en route to the P.O.C., I met with the Honorable Judge DeWolfe in chambers. I presented him with an Application and Affidavit for an Order for Non-Testimonial Evidence (41.1) to obtain color, photographs of Suspect Ridges. Judge DeWolfe signed the order without change(s).

I then returned to the P.O.C. lobby and found Officer Antonio and Suspect Ridges had just arrived. In the P.O.C. media room, I advised Suspect Ridges that I wished to talk with him regarding my case investigation. He stated that he would answer "any questions" that I had. I presented Suspect Ridges with a courtesy copy of the 41.1 ordering booking style photographs be taken of him. He stated that he understood and would fully cooperate.

Prior to entering the room however, I met briefly with Officer Antonio who advised me that Suspect Ridges, according to store employees, had entered the store, completed a "General Customer Information" card in the name of "Gary L. Petty", and attempted to open cellular telephone accounts under that name. Officer Antonio presented me with this handwritten card and a store computer (2-page) printout. Copies of these documents are attached to the Investigations Section copy of this case supplement. The originals were placed into evidence in support of this case report.

On 09/05/01, at approximately 4:23 p.m., while waiting to get into the Records and ID room for the photograph, I advised Suspect Ridges of his Miranda Warning/Rights. He acknowledged his understanding of his rights and waived them; expressing a desire to answer any questions I had.

UCR DISPOSITION OPEN	OFFICER NAME/NUMBER R.G. NEWBURY JR., 1338D	SUPERVISOR SGT R. STEVENSON, 320D	DATE 5-Sep-01	PAGE 1 OF 4
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RECORDS & ID

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I advised Suspect Ridges that he was not under arrest, but being detained long enough to obtain the picture(s) incident to the court order (41.1). I told Suspect Ridges that, besides waiting to get the photograph, he was free to leave at any time and did not have to speak with me unless he actually wanted to. He acknowledged his understanding of these statements and stated that he still wished to speak with me and answer any questions that I had for him.

I first confronted Suspect Ridges as to why he was impersonating himself as "Gary Petty". He initially denied doing so, but later recanted his statements.

Suspect Ridges stated that he entered the store and used the name "Gary Petty" to "open up an (cellular telephone) account." He stated, "This is the first time I've done this."

Suspect Ridges stated that he had previously attempted to open up a cellular telephone account at the business using his own name on two separate occasions. He said, "They said they need a \$500.00 deposit". He made a statement at this point that he did not have the \$500.00 deposit, nor did he have a call-back telephone number that they could reach him at.

Suspect Ridges stated that he is currently unemployed and is "still searching" for employment in the Colorado Springs area.

I then advised Suspect Ridges that I had multiple reports from the store's employees about him entering the store previously and opening dozens of cellular telephone accounts using the identity of "Gary Petty", but having the account's placed in other people's names. I then presented him with the faxed copy of the names provided to me by Agent Parks (which he received from the WorldCom Fraud Investigations Section). He denied any knowledge or involvement in these accounts being opened.

During this interview, I found that Suspect Ridges had two (2) cellular telephones on his person(s):

1. 439-1488
2. 761-8527

When questioned, he stated that #1 was a cellular telephone that he purchased from a "Mexican dude at the 7-Eleven (store) on B Street)..... about 2 or 3 months ago."

I asked Suspect Ridges, "So, you have used it since?" He said, "Yeah".

I asked Suspect Ridges, "So, who's paying the telephone bill?" He replied, "I don't know."

He then stated that phone #2 belonged to his cousin. He identified his cousin as Willie Williams, assigned to the 3rd ACR at Fort Carson. He stated that he did not know his cousin's home telephone number, but his duty phone was [REDACTED].

I asked Suspect Ridges if his cousin knew that he was using his (the cousin's) cellular telephone. He said, "Yeah."

I advised Suspect Ridges that I suspected that the cellular telephone from the "Mexican" was stolen and wanted to retain it to insure that it was not. He agreed to permit me to retain the cell phone. I released the cell phone that allegedly belonged to his cousin back to him.

UCR DISPOSITION OPEN	OFFICER NAME/NUMBER R.G. NEWBURY JR., 1338D	SUPERVISOR SGT R. STEVENSON, 320D	DATE 5-Sep-01	PAGE 2 OF 4
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RECORDS & ID

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During this interview, Suspect Ridges received several incoming calls from his wife; which he did not answer. I permitted him to contact his wife by telephone. As an excuse, Suspect Ridges told his wife that he was having problems with the car at the Citadel Mall and to get a ride home with someone else. This he decided to do (the excuse), rather than tell her where he was.

I advised Suspect Ridges that there were dozens of accounts opened at the Kiosk store which were tied back to him. He continued to deny any involvement in the accounts' activations.

I asked him again how he came up with the name "Gary Petty". He said that he "pulled it out of my hat".

I asked him if he knew a "Gary Petty". He said, "No."

I asked Suspect Ridges if he knew a "Scott Goff". He said, "No."

I then presented him with a copy of the WorldCom service agreement, which I had previously confiscated from the Aziz search warrant in the name of "Scott Goff". I told him to look at the signature and told him that the signature on the form was his. He initially denied any knowledge of this agreement, but later again recanted his statements. As a ruse, I told him that the form had been sent to the state's crime lab (CBI) for handwriting analysis and fingerprint processing/comparison. After explaining the concept of human fingerprint latents, I advised Suspect Ridges that I firmly believed that the lab would in fact find his latent(s) on the form.

Suspect Ridges stated, "Well, I don't remember this (form/transaction). I may have (completed it)."

I advised Suspect Ridges that I simply wished to get to the bottom of the investigation and did not want to play any games with him. I asked him to be honest and tell the truth.

Suspect Ridges ultimately stated that he had in fact used the name "Scott Goff" to open a cellular telephone account.

I asked Suspect Ridges, "How many accounts did you open using the name Scott Goff?" He stated, "Three".

I asked Suspect Ridges, "Where did you open these accounts at?" He stated, "At the Citadel Mall. The place where you guys met me at."

I asked Suspect Ridges, "How many other accounts did you open up under other people's names?" He stated, "Just the one I tried to open up earlier this year. That's the one I talked with (CID) Agent Parks about. I found this ID card and used the name Lee Prather....."

I asked Suspect Ridges, "Was this the case that you talked with Agent Parks about with the forged checks or something?" He said, "Yeah, that's right."

Suspect Ridges then interrupted me and stated, "Oh, and the Nokia (cell phone) today under the name Gary Petty today."

I asked Suspect Ridges, "So, you're saying you actually opened up two accounts (under the names of Goff and Prather) and was unsuccessful with opening the account today, is that correct?" He said, "Yeah."

UCR DISPOSITION OPEN	OFFICER NAME/NUMBER R.G. NEWBURY JR., 1338D	SUPERVISOR SGT R. STEVENSON, 320D	DATE 5-Sep-01	PAGE 3 OF 4
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I asked Suspect Ridges, "Where do have the cell phones now?" He replied, "I don't have any."

I questioned Suspect Ridges where he had acquired all of the military members' names from. He would only stated that he had "pulled them out of his hat". I asked him if he received the names and information from his wife. He said, "No. She doesn't know anything about this."

OTHER COMMENTS:

At the conclusion of the interview, I advised Suspect Ridges that I was not going to arrest him at that time. I advised him that I wished to further the investigation and asked him if he would be available tomorrow (09/06/01), at a time/place of his choosing, for an interview (this time with CID Agent Parks present). He stated that he would be available for such interview and told me to contact him at the cell [REDACTED] to set up the interview time/place.

Note, during this interview, Suspect Ridges was very cooperative, although it is my estimation that he was not being totally truthful regarding the number of accounts he is responsible for opening nor the exact locations of the cell phones purchased on/for these accounts.

After the interview, I contacted Agent Parks by telephone and briefed him accordingly on the case developments. He agreed to participate in the joint interview with Suspect Ridges tomorrow (09/06/01).

Based on the totality of the circumstances and information presented at hand, I will complete an Information for Preliminary Procedure and Probable Cause Affidavit, charging Suspect Ridges with:

1. CRS 18-5-102, Forgery, a Class 5 Felony.
2. CRS 18-5-113, Criminal Impersonation (2 counts), a Class 6 Felony.

At this point, I have no independent information to substantiate whether or not Suspect Ridges has already been criminal charged for the incident involving the identity of "Lee Prather".

I obtained an enlarged photocopy of Suspect Ridges' State of Colorado driver's license for inclusion in this case investigation.

Case Status: Active.

(No further follow-up or action by this detective at this time)

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