



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: December 16, 2009

From: Brenda Godsey, PIO
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Subject: Search Warrants Served – Stolen Property Recovered

Cases: 200908057

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office served two search warrants simultaneously yesterday morning in connection with a string of burglaries. At about 7:30 a.m. Sheriff's Deputies - assisted by personnel from the U.S Marshals Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and officers from the Rio Dell and Fortuna Police Departments - served search warrants at a residence on the 200 block of Ogle Avenue in Rio Dell and at a storage facility in Fortuna. At the residence in Rio Dell, the Sheriff's SWAT team made first contact with the residents there, using a public address system to direct them to come out of the house. The only occupant of the house, Ruth Ellen Boltzen, 30, exited the house approximately 20 minutes later and was detained. The Sheriff's SWAT team confirmed no other persons were inside the residence and left the scene. Inside the residence, a search team located a loaded assault rifle and multiple items of stolen property. Ruth Boltzen was placed under arrest for possession of stolen property. At about 9:00 a.m., another resident of the Ogle Avenue house (who was not at home), Douglas Vern Boltzen, 38 was arrested in Eureka by a Sheriff's Deputy who pulled him over on Broadway.

At the storage facility in Fortuna, the second search team found the unit was used to store stolen property. The property included items that had been reported stolen in commercial and residential burglaries, primarily in the Carlotta-Hydesville-Fortuna area.

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The recovered property includes a wide variety of items. Deputies found large power tools, antiques, jewelry, and electronics. Much of the property has been traced back to its owners but the Sheriff's Office and its partner agencies are working to match all of the property with its rightful owners.

Ruth and Douglas Boltzen were transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. Ruth was booked for possession of stolen property and posted bail in the amount of \$25,000. She is scheduled to appear in court on December 29, 2009.

Douglas Boltzen was booked for seven counts of possession of stolen property and four firearms violation, including two counts of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Mr. Boltzen's bail was set at \$900,000 and he is expected to be arraigned by Friday.

Anyone with questions about the recovered property should call Sheriff's Property Technician Ryan Chamberlain at (707) 268-3651.

Gary Philp
Sheriff

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