



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: June 24, 2009

From: Brenda Godsey, PIO
(707) 268-3645

Subject: Felony Vandalism

Case: 200904124

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humboldt County Sheriff's Deputies are investigating a case of vandalism that caused more than \$100,000 in damages to a U.S. Coast Guard communications tower. Yesterday morning deputies were called to a construction site located on Kelly Rd. and Toth Rd. in Shelter Cove where a 120-foot communications tower is under construction.

The 120' radio tower is located inside a fenced compound. The compound houses several additional structures, including a building – commonly called the State Parks building - that houses radio communication systems for several state and local fire agencies and state and local law enforcement agencies.

Upon arriving at the scene, deputies learned that a suspect had fired multiple high-powered rifle rounds into the radio tower, damaging one of the support legs. The construction company manager estimated the damage to the tower at \$100,000. Additionally, several rounds were fired at the State Parks building causing another \$10,000 worth in damages.

Construction workers reported they had been working at the site until about 9:00 Monday night. Upon returning Tuesday morning, they discovered the damage. Deputies recovered approximately 25 shell casings nearby. Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to call the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office at (707) 445-7251.

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