

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

Press Release

(Title of Crime/Incident) 182(a)(1)PC [conspiracy two or more committing crime] 496(a)PC [receiving stolen property] 470(D)PC [forgery] 475PC [Possessing, receiving or uttering forged notes] 11377(a)H&S [possession of controlled substance]

Report Number: 2015-13847

Coroner Number:

Crime/Incident: 182(a)(1)PC [conspiracy two or more committing crime] 496(a)PC [receiving stolen property] 470(D)PC [forgery] 475PC [Possessing, receiving or uttering forged notes] 11377(a)H&S [possession of controlled substance]

Location: 44000 block of North Highway 101 Laytonville, CA

When: Date: 06-09-2015 **Time:** 1:30 PM

Victim Info :

	Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
Victim #1:	Adult Male	65		Leggett, CA

Suspect Info:

	Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
Suspect #1:	Donald Powell	34		Cottonwood, CA
Suspect #2:	Lawanda Parks	30		Corning, CA

Written by: Captain Greg Van Patten

Synopsis:

On 06-09-2015, Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputies were notified that mail was taken from a residential mailbox in Leggett, California.

The victim was alerted to a vehicle parked next to his mailbox with a male and female inside. When the victim was approaching the vehicle, the individuals drove off.

The victim followed the suspects to Boomers Bar in Laytonville, California where Deputies responded to investigate further.

The individuals then drove off at a high rate of speed but eventually pulled over as the Deputies caught up to the vehicle and initiated an enforcement stop.

Deputies spoke with the driver (Donald Powell) and the passenger (Lawanda Parks), who both originally denied stealing any mail.

During the investigation, the Deputies discovered several pieces of stolen mail within the vehicle from at least 11 victims, all from other counties, totaling the amount of \$22,076.75 in altered money orders or checks.

The Deputies located 2 additional money orders that the Leggett victim had previously placed inside his mailbox. These money orders had already been altered by having Powell's name written on them.

The Deputies learned Powell was also wanted out of Shasta County for a burglary arrest warrant. During the course of the investigation methamphetamine was discovered inside the vehicle as well.

Powell and Parks were booked into the Mendocino County Jail where they both were both to be held in lieu of \$15,000.00 bail.

Approved By: Captain Greg Van Patten

[Click Here to Close Window](#)