

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Help Glendale Police Catch a Puppy Snatcher!

GLENDALE, Ariz. – We all know the story of one of Disney’s most popular villains, Cruella de Vil, who kidnaped puppies for their fur. Glendale Police have their own version of Cruella de Vil, and we need help catching the puppy snatcher still on the loose! Two suspects, working together, have been snatching puppies right out of owner’s hands across the valley, reselling them online for thousands of dollars.

The following is how detectives believe the two puppy snatchers commit their crimes. The suspects contact the victim dog breeders or sellers through online ads the sellers have placed on the internet. The suspects set up a time and location to purchase the puppies from the sellers. When the suspects arrive at the location to meet the owner of the puppies, they snatch the puppies right out of the owner’s hands. They then turnaround and sell the stolen puppies on Craig’s List for thousands of dollars. The stolen puppies have been English Bulldogs, valued between \$2500 to \$3500 dollars.

Glendale Police detectives began investigating these crimes on May 23rd when two English Bulldogs were snatched from their owner while meeting the suspects in a retail parking lot at 6700 W. Camelback. Glendale Police detectives diligently working the case were able to nab one of the puppy snatchers and recover one of the stolen puppies the suspect was attempting to resale. That puppy snatcher was 19 year old Phoenix resident Bryonna Shepard. Bryonna admitted to stealing and selling the dogs. However, she would not provide information on the other puppy snatcher who detectives believe has been working with Bryonna stealing and reselling the puppies. Bryonna was arrested by detectives and charged with felony theft. See booking photo below and attached Form IV.

The Glendale Police Department is asking for the community's help in finding the other suspect believed to be responsible for these puppy snatchings. The other suspect puppy snatcher is described as a black male in his 30's, with short, shaved black hair, 5'8" to 6'0" tall, with a strong, heavy-set build. He is believed to have tattoos on his neck and arms. The photo below is believed to be the other suspect holding one of the missing stolen puppies.

Detectives are also asking members of the public that if they believe they may have purchased a stolen puppy to please contact Glendale Police. Detectives are aware of 4 possible cases in Glendale, Phoenix, Avondale and Scottsdale, and detectives believe there could be more cases of stolen puppies across the valley.

Please contact the Glendale Police Department at (623)930-3000 with any information that might help solve this case. Glendale Police detectives have recovered two of the stolen puppies. There is no surveillance video available. The victims of those stolen puppies are willing to do on camera interviews and show the media the puppies that are now safely back home. The first victim is Sybil Coca. Her number is 602-413-1555. The second victim is Gwen Kottmann. She can be reached at 480-815-8488.



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**Spanish translation available*

*“The Glendale Police Department’s mission
is to protect the lives and property of the people we serve.”*

*Glendale Police Department
a proud recipient of CALEA National Accreditation since 2000*