



CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

530-897-4900



Incident: Grand Theft Bicycle- Felony

Location: Safeway 720 Mangrove Avenue

Date: 09/30/15 2215 hours

Case: 15-6627

**Suspect: 30 y.o. W/M Garrett Brashears
Chico transient**

Photo: Garrett Brashears dated 09/30/15

On 09/30/15 at about 2235 hours, 30 year old Chico transient Garrett Brashears was arrested on suspicion of stealing a Chico Police Department bait bike that was locked in front of Safeway at 720 Mangrove Avenue. At about 2215 hours, officers began monitoring the direction of a GPS enabled "bait bike" as it entered into the 1 Mile area of Bidwell Park. Officers coordinated a perimeter around the park and located Brashears with the bicycle. He was arrested without incident for felony theft of the bicycle valued at \$1,500.

Chico Police have arrested Brashears twice in the last 15 days. During one contact on 09/15/15, he was issued a citation for prowling after being detained by citizens for suspected bicycle theft. However, the bicycle that was in his possession was not registered and the victim owner could not be identified.

The Chico Police Department Bait Bicycle Program was developed in response to rise in property crime, including bicycle theft, over the last year. The bicycles, some valued at over \$950, are equipped with GPS transmitters that alert patrol officers when they are stolen and enable them to track them remotely. The Chico Police Department is committed to continued deployment of bait bikes throughout the city.

Contact Lt. Rob Merrifield 530-897-5811