

CITY OF REDDING



PETER T. HANSEN, CHIEF OF POLICE

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PRESS RELEASE

August 5, 2009

Stolen Vehicle Recovered After Pursuit

Case #09-51428

On Wednesday, August 5, 2009, 5:08 at p.m., Lithia Toyota Motors reported a stolen vehicle to the Redding Police Department. They reported a man came to the Lithia lot about 10:30 a.m. and asked to view a 2008 Honda Accord. Lithia staff believed the man may have stolen a spare key for the car at that time. After talking to a salesman about the car he left the lot.

At about 5:00 p.m., Lithia staff received a phone call from the CHP in Lassen County, notifying Lithia that CHP officers were in pursuit of the Honda Accord from Lithia. Lithia staff then confirmed the car was no longer on the lot and had been stolen.

Redding Police Officer Sam Llamas subsequently learned from the CHP in Lassen County that the pursuit had begun in Susanville and went for 23 miles. The pursuit ended when the stolen Honda rear ended another vehicle and crashed. The CHP officers arrested the driver of the stolen Honda, who they identified as Derek Dias, 21 years, of Redding. He was arrested for auto theft and felony evading and subsequently booked into the Lassen County jail.

Derek Dias had just been arrested by the Redding Police Department in the 600 block of Loma Vista Drive on August 4, 2009, after stealing a Dodge Ram pickup from Crown Motors earlier in the day. He hid in a house on Loma Vista Drive and a police canine was used to locate him. He resisted arrested. He was found to be on felony probation for auto theft.

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