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NAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

September 22, 2011

On September 21st at 1043 hours, Nampa Police received a call from a Chase bank located at 2nd St. S. and Nampa Blvd. regarding what they believed to be an attempt at a fraudulent withdrawal from their institution.

With the help of the bank employees, Nampa Police Detectives were able to uncover an identity theft ring originating out of California. The suspects use stolen account numbers and account holder identities to withdraw the monies held in the accounts. The suspects have access to the victim's personal information, to include driver's license information and social security numbers. The victim's information is then transferred to counterfeit out of state driver's licenses and fraudulent social security cards. Suspects are also producing fraudulent credit cards with the victim's information to be used for a second piece of identification. The suspect then enters financial institutions and cleans out the victim's account. On this date if not for the diligent bank employees efforts, another account may have been targeted.

Gary A. Salzman (age 34) of Lancaster, California was arrested today as part of this investigation on felony charges of: Forgery I.C.18-3106, Grand theft by unauthorized control I.C. 18-2407, and Misappropriation of personal identifying information I.C. 18-3126. Two other suspects were able to leave the area as police arrived on scene. The suspects are identified as two black males, mid 30s to 40's, driving a maroon Mazda 6 with California plates. Based on details gathered during the investigation, the ring has targeted banks in Idaho, Washington and Utah.

We recommend to the public that you keep vigilant of your credit card and bank account activity. Review bank statements as provided by your institution and report suspicious activity to your bank immediately. You should contact your bank to find out how to track your personal accounts on-line for a more timely review of account activity. Most institutions have fraudulent charge protections, so long as it is reported to the bank in a timely manner. Review your banks policies for protection details.

If you have information related to this case you can contact Sgt. Joe Ramirez 468-5615. Tips can also be called in anonymously to crime stoppers 343-COPS (2677) or 1-800-222-TIPS.

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