

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Stanley L. Sniff Jr., Sheriff-Coroner

SUBMITTAL DATE:
11/21/07

SUBJECT: : Strategy to Combat Metal Theft

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Maintain its commitment to advocate for and support legislation drafted at the State level to deter metal theft and provide for stricter oversight of the scrap industry.
2. Accept the attached update concerning the current strategy to address metal theft by the Sheriff's Department in unincorporated Riverside County.

BACKGROUND: On October 2, 2007 (3.76), the Board approved an Executive Office motion requesting that the Sheriff's Department report back to the Board within 45 days with a strategy to enhance the enforcement of scrap metal theft in the County. The Department's strategy is briefly summarized below.

The County Executive Office and Sheriff's Department continue to monitor Fresno County's appeal of a temporary restraining order, which is currently blocking its efforts to enact a County Ordinance providing enhanced oversight over the scrap metal industry.

(Continued on Page 2)

BR 08-055

[Signature] For
Stanley L. Sniff Jr., Sheriff-Coroner
[Signature] Assistant Sheriff

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	N/A	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	N/A	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	N/A	For Fiscal Year:	FY 2007-08

SOURCE OF FUNDS:	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY: *[Signature]*
Steve P. Schubert

County Executive Office Signature

Dept's Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 3.76 10/2/07

District: All

Agenda Number:

3.23

Departmental Concurrence

The Sheriff's Department's Hemet Station is serving as a centralized source of expertise and personnel for Riverside County law enforcement charged with investigation of significant metal theft incidents. One Sheriff's Corporal and one Sheriff's Investigator, assigned to the Hemet Station's Investigations Bureau, maintain active membership in the Inland Empire Metal Theft Investigators' Association, and interface regularly with similar law enforcement organizations in Southern California.

These two Sheriff's Department members have also received training and developed contacts through the following organizations:

California Metal Theft Investigators Association
The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industry
The Inland Empire Farm Bureau
California Rural Crime Prevention Task Force
Agricultural Crime Prevention

This two person team, headquartered at the Hemet Station, has been deployed to provide technical assistance and investigative support throughout Riverside County, including recent deployments to the Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, San Jacinto and Perris Stations, in addition to the Murrieta Police Department.

Because sharing the investigative expertise they have gained is a high priority, this two person team has responded to requests for training from numerous other law enforcement agencies, including several in Orange, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties. A particularly productive inter-department relationship has developed with investigators at the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Fontana substation.

The Sheriff's Department is committed to retaining its involvement in enforcement of existing laws addressing metal theft, and also to working with partner agencies, including Riverside County Code Enforcement and the District Attorney's Office, as well as the Riverside County Farm Bureau and building industry trade groups, to stay abreast of trends in the field of metal theft. To this end, the Sheriff's Department will maintain its membership on the current "task group" scheduled to report back to the Board in April 2008.