



BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Douglas N. Hambleton, Chief of Police



***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

Burglar's Fruitful Spree Ends! **Admits to over 100 cases**

Contact:
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Badge #78

BPD
Public
Information
Officer
(510) 981-5752



Berkeley, California (Wednesday, January 25, 2006) – A quick response by Berkeley Police Department Patrol Officers resulted in the apprehension of a prolific burglar. Officers working the “dog-watch” responded to an alarm call at Model Shoe Renew on Shattuck Ave. at about 3:30 AM. on January 11, 2006

The BPD Officers arrived on scene within minutes of the alarm company’s call. Officer Ettare #156, the handling officer noticed the front door glass of the business shattered and partially removed. It appeared that a suspect had entered the business, but was now gone.

About two short blocks away from the scene, Officer Ettare noticed a male (identified as **Andrew Larry Austin 05/10/49**) looking into a garbage can. This did not seem too out of the ordinary, as Ettare sees many people “dumpster diving” during his shift. As the Officer was asking Austin if he had seen anyone suspicious in area, he noticed small slivers of glass on Austin’s hat, jacket and gloves. Austin was arrested with stolen property from Model Shoe Renew and numerous burglary tools.

Berkeley Police Property Crimes Detective Durbin interviewed Austin and determined that he was responsible for approximately 50 commercial burglaries in Berkeley alone. Austin by his own admission is responsible for as many as 100 commercial burglaries in Berkeley during the past eight months. Most of Austin’s burglaries were in the downtown area.

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