

Media Release

From: Stanfield Police Department

09/12/13

On September 09, 2013 at about 8:45 pm Officer Mike Ellwood of the Stanfield Police Department contacted 18 year-old Noah Matlack of Benton City Washington and 19 year old Noel Gonzalez of Kennewick Washington at the Pilot Travel Center in Stanfield Oregon. Officer Ellwood was on routine patrol and was not summoned to the business. Casual conversation turned into a full investigation when Officer Ellwood's "hunch" that there was more to this duo than just a couple guys waiting for the Greyhound bus.

Further investigation by Officer Ellwood led to the arrest of Noah Matlack for Theft in the first degree, Concealed Weapon, and Possession of over an ounce of Marijuana. A short time later Officer Ellwood was assisted by Loren Westmoreland of the Umatilla County Sheriff's office, who placed Noel Gonzalez under arrest for similar crimes using Officer Ellwood's probable cause.

Information Officer Ellwood received during the investigation led him to contact the Benton County Sheriff's Office in Washington state regarding the recent homicide of Michael Edwards in Benton City Washington.

Investigators from Benton County soon joined Officer Ellwood in the investigation resulting in both suspects facing charges of Murder I.

The excellent police work done by Officer Ellwood resulted in two violent suspects being removed from our community.

Benton County Sheriff's Office is still investigation this homicide, therefore no further details will be released by the Stanfield Police Department at this time.

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