

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Surveillance Video, ALPR System Assist in Arrest of Four Hillcrest Hate Crime Suspects

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Police Department (SDPD) arrested four individuals early Sunday morning following a string of hate crime incidents in Hillcrest. The arrests were aided by the use of surveillance footage and SDPD's Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) system.

On June 21, at approximately 12:36 a.m., SDPD received several calls reporting that suspects in a gray Toyota Tacoma were throwing eggs at customers and security guards at multiple LGBTQ+ restaurants and bars located along the 1000-1200 block of University Ave. Two businesses and three individuals were hit with eggs. Security video from one of the businesses captured the vehicle's license plate.

SDPD officers were dispatched to the scene to gather additional information and began working to locate the vehicle and the suspects.

At approximately 3:35 a.m., SDPD's ALPR system was used to locate the vehicle heading eastbound near 2500 Garnet Ave. in Pacific Beach. During the investigation, officers located evidence of the crime in the vehicle.

Based on the video footage, the ALPR information, and the evidence found in the vehicle, one juvenile and three adults were arrested for Violating Civil Rights by Threat or Force, Conspiracy to Commit a Misdemeanor, and Battery.

The San Diego Police Department takes reports of hate crimes very seriously and works swiftly to investigate and hold individuals who are committing these acts of violence accountable. Anyone who is a victim of a hate crime is encouraged to report it immediately. In an emergency, call 9-1-1, or dial the non-emergency line at 619-531-2000 to report the incident. More information and resources regarding hate crimes can be found at: www.sandiego.gov/police/services/hate-crimes.

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