



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

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ARRESTS MADE IN "OCCUPY SAN DIEGO" PROTESTS

(San Diego, CA) The San Diego Police Department announces the arrest of several individuals for charges stemming from the "Occupy San Diego" demonstrations.

This morning, shortly after 2:00 a.m., San Diego Police officers, assisted by San Diego Sheriff's deputies, removed the personal property stored in the grass area immediately adjacent to the Civic Theatre at the Civic Center Plaza by "Occupy San Diego" protestors. This property included tarps, tables, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, clothing, a significant amount of food and trash, in violation of San Diego Municipal Code Section 54.0110 (Encroachment). We requested that all persons leave the area around the Civic Center Plaza in order to allow a cleaning crew to conduct a thorough cleaning this morning.

The cleaning crews began cleaning the area around 7:00 a.m. this morning. Once the cleaning is completed, those who wish to return to the area to continue their protest will be allowed back, as long as they do not bring personal property or camp.

Over the past weekend, the San Diego Police Department experienced an increase in violent acts among the protestors themselves and against police personnel.

The San Diego Police Department supports the rights of all who choose to peacefully protest and has accommodated the protestors and demonstrators representing "Occupy San Diego" since the beginning of their action on October 7, 2011. However, the group representing "Occupy San Diego" was given multiple orders by uniformed San Diego Police officers to remove their personal property stored around the Civic Center Plaza. Even after several requests to comply with the law, protestors continued to refuse to remove their property.

San Diego Police Executive Assistant Chief David Ramirez, Assistant Chief Boyd Long and Captain Mark Jones will be at San Diego Police Department Headquarters at 10:00 a.m. today to discuss the operation.

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