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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release

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Back to Back Foot Pursuits in Beverly Hills

On April 1, 2008, at 3:37 p.m., a forgery occurred at Nieman-Marcus, 9700 Wilshire Boulevard. Security personnel at Nieman-Marcus detained a suspect, Opal Jackson, 30, at the store and then alerted the Beverly Hills Police of a possible associated suspicious green van parked outside the location. The van left the location a short time later and was quickly observed by responding Beverly Hills units. The vehicle proceeded to the intersection of Glenville and Whitworth where it was involved in a minor collision. The driver of the vehicle, Theodore Starks, 48, bailed out of the vehicle and a foot pursuit took place. Officers quickly contained the neighborhood area and ultimately captured Starks. The passenger in the vehicle, Kim Maybee, 56, who was inside the van, was also arrested. All three suspects were taken into custody for Forgery and Starks was also charged with Evading police.

Nearly two hours later, at 5:24 p.m., a strong arm robbery occurred at a bus bench at Roxbury and Olympic Boulevards. Responding Beverly Hills officers observed the suspects running towards the park and another foot pursuit ensued. One suspect ran into the Recreation Center of Roxbury Park where a group of pre-school children were located and eventually evacuated. Another containment of the area was quickly established, and a suspect was located inside and captured. During the search for additional suspects, a second suspect was located in the immediate vicinity and captured as well. The suspects, Alejandro Ramirez, 20, and a male juvenile, were taken into custody for Attempted Robbery.

The quick two minute response times for both incidents and coordinated teamwork were no doubt the driving force that took five felons off the streets.