



News and Information

CONTACT: Sergeant Ryan Abbott
King County Courthouse
Room W-116
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 255-0778 Mobile

KCSOPIO@kingcounty.gov
 @kingcosoPIO

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Date: 11/6/2018

Update: Water tower vandalism case

Summary- Sallal Water tower person of interested identified and questioned

Update- Yesterday, 11/5/2018 KCSO Detectives identified a 14 year old male that was believed to be involved with the trespass and vandalism of the Sallal water tower. He was located and provided a full statement. Both the juvenile and his parents have been fully cooperative with law enforcement and this investigation. Detectives determined that while the juvenile may have accessed the water tower numerous times he may not have acted alone or been responsible for the vandalism at all, additional suspects may still be outstanding. The juvenile provided a two-year timeline as to activities around or near the tower and admitted the tower is a favorite spot for youth to play air soft. The subject was released to his parents and burglary/trespassing charges will be forwarded to the Juvenile Court for review.

Detectives were back out at the scene today, 11/6/18 with water district staff to document the draining and cleaning of the tower. Several additional evidence items had been recovered and are now being processed. Over the next few days, the tank will be cleaned and water samples will be tested from several access points.

KCSO is not aware of any current risk or additional threats to the residents living in the North Bend area. Detectives continue to seek information on who may be responsible for the vandalism or what the motive maybe. If anyone has information they are urged to call the King County Sheriff's Office at 206/296-3311.

Story: On 10/31/2018 KCSO Patrol responded to a burglary call at one of Sallal's Water towers east of North Bend. Deputies found locks to different areas of the tower had been cut along

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with some wiring. Damage to the water tower was \$2500-5000. One of the locks that was cut that accessed the 168,000 gallon tank so Sallal Water put a “no drink” order out until the white pellets found on top of the water tower could be tested and the water test. KCSO was given a photo of a person of interest that was seen leaving the area of the water tower.

On 11/1/2018 the white pellets were tested and it is believed they are bio-degradable air soft pellets.

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