NEWS RELEASE

DATE: 4/30/2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: John Wiegand

TITLE: Postal Inspector/PIO

PHONE: **(206) 748-5463**

EMAIL: JAWiegand@uspis.gov

Postal Inspectors and Burien Police Target Mail Theft Suspects

Burien, WA – In the last week of April 2020, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, in partnership with Burien Police Department, conducted a proactive mail theft operation targeting the Burien, WA area in an effort to prevent and reduce mail theft.

In the early morning hours of April 28, 2020, Inspectors and Burien PD responded to the 11000 block of Roseberg Ave. in Burien to a report of an active mail theft. Two two suspects were identified and interviewed, and a large volume of stolen mail and other stolen items were recovered from their vehicle. Both suspects were arrested and booked into King County Jail on outstanding warrants, as well as Investigation of Theft 2nd Degree. Additional charges may be referred as the investigation continues.

"Mail theft is an attack on one of the most fundamental services within our community" said Inspector in Charge Anthony Galetti, "no matter the situation, we are working around the clock with our law enforcement partners to bring these suspects to justice."

Inspectors are working with Burien PD and King County Sheriff's Office on a separate mail theft case stemming from a search warrant where over 1500 pieces of mail and other identity documents were recovered. The investigation is ongoing at this time.

Tips for protecting yourself from becoming a victim of mail theft:

- Pick up your mail as soon as you can (don't leave it out overnight).
- Use a mail hold if you are going to be out of town.
- Not home in time, ask a friend or trusted neighbor to pick it up for you.
- If your mail is stolen, report it: uspis.gov or 877-876-2455.

The United States Postal Inspection Service is the law enforcement branch of the US Postal Service. We are federal law enforcement agents that investigate crimes related to the misuse of the mail system and postal facilities. We carry firearms, execute federal search warrants, subpoenas, and make arrests.

###

www.uspis.gov 1-877-876-2455