



# St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



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## **For Immediate Release**

September 28, 2011

## **Man Arrested for Burglary after releasing birds from Boyd Hill Nature Trail Park**

The St. Petersburg Police Department investigated a burglary at Boyd Hill Nature Trail Park, 1101 Country Club Way South, on Thursday September 22, 2011.

Ten injured birds of prey that were kept in cages at Boyd Hill were removed or released after the park closed the day before on Wednesday September 21, 2011. The burglary was discovered when park workers arrived to work on the morning of Thursday September 22, 2011.

Many of the birds could not fly due to injuries to their wings.

According to the police report, the cages were cut open and the birds included turkey vultures, red shouldered hawks and two bald eagles were removed from the cages. All but three of the birds were recovered later that day. Two more of them were recovered on the property later. One of them is still missing.

A recent tip led investigators to a video posted on Youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpxXBgl8dLc>

The video is entitled "Saving Some Birds" by Brakeman1212.

Investigators determined that the video was taken by the burglar in this case. While videotaping his actions, near the end of the 50 minute video, the suspect identified himself when he turned the camera on himself.

SPPD investigators identified the suspect as Blake Richard Riede, DOB: 9-6-90, 4900 Cadiz Way South, St. Petersburg, Florida and arrested him without incident this morning and transported him to the Pinellas County Jail. He is charged with Commercial Burglary and Cruelty to Animals.

Information by Bill Proffitt on September 28, 2011 at 5:00 p.m

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