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SFPD Arrests Prolific Catalytic Converter Suspect #26-023

March 09, 2026 | 9:30 AM

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Over the past few months, SFPD Investigators assigned to the Burglary Unit were notified of multiple reports of catalytic converter thefts occurring throughout the city. During the investigation, investigators determined that the same white 4-door sedan was involved in many of the reported catalytic converter thefts.

Through the course of the investigation, the Fugitive Recovery Enforcement Team (FRET) identified the suspect and developed probable cause to place him under arrest.

On January 29, 2026, Burglary investigators and members of the SFPD Investigations Bureau located 19-year-old Deric Gonzalez-Rodriguez and placed him under arrest for multiple thefts.

Gonzalez-Rodriguez was transported to the San Francisco County Jail and booked for several counts of felony grand theft.

While an arrest has been made, these cases are still open and active. Anyone with information is asked to contact SFPD at [1-415-575-4444](tel:1-415-575-4444) or *Text-A-Tip* to [TIP411](tel:TIP411) and begin the message with SFPD.

SFPD CASE# 250-711-354, 260-004-462, 260-035-768, 250-726-331

Below are some tips to help you prevent your catalytic converter from being stolen:

- Have it etched with your VIN or license plate number so that it is traceable to your vehicle and can assist law enforcement if it is later discovered in a criminal investigation.
- Paint it with bright, high-temperature colored paint so it makes it difficult for thieves to sell.
- Install a catalytic converter anti-theft device.
- If possible, always park your vehicle in a garage or a well-lit area.
- Install motion detection lights or video surveillance where you park your vehicle.
- If you hear unusual sawing or grinding sounds, immediately report them to law enforcement.
- Please do not chase, confront, or follow a suspect; they are known to be armed and carry weapons.

Be vigilant; catalytic converter thefts are occurring day and night.

If you discover your catalytic converter to be missing, please report it immediately and file a police report. Please also remember that video surveillance and witness statements are crucial to these investigations.

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