



Rod Underhill, District Attorney
1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 600
Portland, OR 97204-1193
Phone: 503-988-3162 Fax: 503-988-3643
www.mcda.us

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Indictment accuses 41 year old man of stealing tailgates, selling them online

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced the filing of a 52-count indictment against 41-year-old Loyd Garoutte.

The indictment charges Garoutte with 26 counts of theft in the first degree and 26 counts of felony computer crime.

According to court documents, this investigation started in late 2018 when Gresham Police responded to the 5300 block of Southeast Woodland Drive to investigate the theft of a tailgate. During the investigation, the Gresham Police Department discovered that thieves were specifically targeting Toyota Tacoma tailgates. Between January 2018 and December 2018, more than 40 tailgates were reported stolen within Gresham city limits. Law enforcement was able to determine that most of the thefts were occurring from neighborhoods in southeast Gresham.

During the investigation, law enforcement learned that many of the tailgates, once stolen, were being sold online, according to court documents.

On December 27, 2018, law enforcement executed a search warrant in the 3000 block of Southeast Powell Valley Road. As part of the investigation into the stolen tailgates, the Gresham Police Department determined Garoutte was selling the tailgates on eBay, according to previously released information by law enforcement.

When the search warrant was executed, Garoutte was arrested. However, at that time, no criminal charges were filed because the District Attorney's Office and Gresham Police needed to obtain a voluminous amount of eBay records as part of the investigation.

Once that information was obtained, via a court order, the case was presented before a grand jury.

An indictment is only an accusation of a crime. Garoutte is innocent unless and until proven guilty.

#MCDA#

Contact: Brent Weisberg, Communications Director
Phone: 503.988.6567
Email: Brent.Weisberg@mcda.us