



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE
FORT WORTH DIVISION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Postal Inspectors Seek Assistance in El Prado, NM, Carjacking *Up to \$50,000 Offered for Information*

Albuquerque, NM – Postal Inspectors are offering a reward of up to \$50,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect in the October 28, 2009, strong-armed carjacking of a U.S. Postal Service highway contract route (HCR) operator's delivery vehicle. The employee sustained minor injuries in the robbery, which occurred at about 11:30 a.m. MST at 1518 Paseo Del Pueblo Norte in El Prado, NM 87529.

The stolen vehicle was recovered later that evening at Arroyos del Norte Elementary School in Arroyo Seco, NM. The vehicle, a red 2004 Ford Ranger pickup with a red with white stripe camper top and tinted windows, will be processed for forensic evidence. Postal Inspectors will determine if any mail was stolen and notify affected customers.

"We are fortunate that the HCR driver was not more seriously harmed," said Ft. Worth Division Inspector in Charge Randall Till. "For over 200 years Postal Inspectors have ensured that those who commit crimes against the Postal Service receive swift justice. The safety of our employees and the security of the mail are among our highest priorities. We will work tirelessly to bring the perpetrator to justice for this crime."

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, approximately 5'6," with a thin build. He was wearing prescription glasses, a white-hooded sweatshirt, and a black stocking cap. The suspect made the employee exit her mail delivery vehicle, and was last seen driving west on U.S. Highway 64.

Robbery of a Postal Service employee in the performance of his or her duties is a violation of Title 18, USC, Section 2114, and is punishable by up to 10 years' incarceration. If injuries are sustained during the offense, the crime is punishable by up to 25 years' incarceration.

Anyone with information on the suspect should contact the Postal Inspector Lori Hinson at 877-876-2455, option 2, or the New Mexico State Police at 575-758-8879.

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About the U.S. Postal Inspection Service

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is one of the oldest federal law enforcement agencies in the country. For more than 200 years, Postal Inspectors have protected the U.S. Postal Service, secured the nation's mail system and ensured public trust in the mail. To learn more, visit <http://postalinspectors.uspis.gov>.