



# PRESS RELEASE

**DATE:** 18 MARCH 2010  
**RE:** GRAFFITI ARRESTS  
**FROM:** EPHRATA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CONTACT:** WES CRAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF EPHRATA, EPHRATA, WA 18 MARCH 2010

GRAFFITI ARRESTS

At approximately 4:30pm on 17 March 2010, Ephrata Police Officers responded to a complaint of indecency in the 000 block of F-Street Southeast.

Ephrata Officers located three suspects in a nearby alley, where the subjects were in the process of tagging, and all were detained for questioning. One suspect, Alejandro Rodriguez was booked into the Grant County Jail for complicity to commit Malicious Mischief 2<sup>nd</sup> and Obstructing. The second suspect, a juvenile, was also charged with complicity to commit Malicious Mischief 2<sup>nd</sup> and Obstructing. A third juvenile suspect was charged with Malicious Mischief 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Obstructing. Evidence was collected from the scene and sent to the State crime lab in order to evaluate if these subjects could be linked to other tagging incidents.

Two Grant County Deputies and a Fish and Wildlife Officer assisted the Ephrata Police Officers.

The Ephrata Police Department has now arrested eight suspects, in the last 12-months, for graffiti and tagging crimes.

The City continues to urge citizens to contact MACC Dispatch (762-1160 or 911 for emergencies) each and every time you witness any suspicious behavior. The City also thanks the Grant County Sheriff's Office and the local State Fish and Wildlife Office for their assistance.

The City will continue to offer a \$1,500.00 reward for information leading to the conviction of graffiti or tagging crimes. Graffiti is a community problem, and therefore there is a community-based solution. By working together, we can keep our community clean and safe.

To report any suspicious behavior, contact MACC Dispatch at 762-1160, or dial 911 for emergencies.