NEWS RELEASE
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Joint Agency Effort Leads to Arrest of UO Custodian

SUMMARY: Thomas Wayne Morgan Jr. was arrested this morning in connection with numerous thefts committed while he served as a custodian at the UO.

The Eugene Police Department and the University of Oregon Department of Public Safety completed a nearly three-year investigation today when they served a search warrant on the home of Thomas Wayne Morgan Jr., 40 of Springfield. Their investigation revealed Morgan had stolen more than $10,000 worth of property from various University buildings since 2009.

Agents from both agencies stopped Morgan on his way home early this morning after he had completed his overnight janitorial shift at the University of Oregon. Detectives then served a search warrant on his Springfield area home in the 6700 block of A Street. While there, officers recovered multiple xBox 360° gaming systems, iPads, video cameras and equipment such as projectors, along with hundreds of xBox games. It is estimated that the total value of the items will well exceed $10,000. Investigators from both agencies believe that nearly all of the property stolen was recovered through today’s search warrant and that the property was stolen for personal use rather than to be sold.

Investigators learned the majority of the thefts were from the University of Oregon science buildings as well as the Ford Alumni Center where Morgan was assigned as a member of the custodial staff.

Morgan was taken into custody and transported to City Hall, were he was finger printed and photographed, receiving citations for Burglary in the Second Degree, Theft in the First Degree and Official Misconduct. It is highly likely Morgan will face many additional counts of Burglary and Theft once the thefts are inventoried.

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