

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Parks' Mining and Mineral Museum Closed for Repairs Following Robbery

Following the robbery at the California State Mining and Mineral Museum in Mariposa last Friday, the museum will remain closed until further notice while repairs are completed.

In the robbery, a number of display cases, doors and other items were damaged by the approximately two suspects who entered the museum and stole an undetermined amount of precious minerals. It is the goal of State Parks to make the repairs quickly in order to reopen the museum to the public as soon as possible.

There were two State Parks' employees at the museum at the time of the robbery. Neither was injured and while both remain shaken from the experience, both report they are doing fine.

An inventory of the stolen items will be getting underway this week. Until it is completed, State Parks will not have a listing of what was taken or the dollar amount of the items.

The lead agency for this investigation is the Central Division Investigative Services Unit (ISU) of the California Highway Patrol. The CHP ISU Unit is being assisted by the California Department of Justice, California State Parks and the Mariposa County Sheriff's Department.

Should anyone have information about the theft, someone seen acting suspiciously around the museum around 4 p.m. Friday or someone trying to sell unusual precious minerals, they are encourage to immediately call the California Highway Patrol – Central Division Investigative Services Unit at (559) 277-7250. Likewise, all media inquiries should be made to the CHP at (559) 277-7250.

The Mariposa Mining and Mineral Museum is a unit of California State Parks. It is located in the Sierra foothills community of Mariposa, about 70 miles from Fresno.

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