



GENE HARRIS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## NEWS RELEASE

PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
207 N. GARFIELD AVE.  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91101

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 20, 2024

### **For More Information:**

Lieutenant Keith Gomez: 626-744-4517

### **Suspect Identified and Arrested for Numerous Unidentified Explosions in Pasadena**

**Pasadena, CA** – For nearly two years, there have been over 150 unidentified explosions in the area of Allen Ave. and Washington Blvd. Most of these explosions were not reported to the police but were identified through ShotSpotter technology and neighborhood applications. Over the last two weeks, there were 14 explosions around this same corridor.

Pasadena Fire Arson Investigator with assistance from the Pasadena Police Robbery / Homicide Unit (RHU) worked in collaboration to identify two involved vehicles, with the same registered owner. With the aid of technology, the suspect was identified as Pasadena resident, Art Leon Berian, a 63-year-old male.

On May 16, 2024, at 11:30 a.m., RHU detectives collected video on a related explosion associated with this investigation. While detectives were leaving the area, they heard a loud explosion and observed a white cloud in front of them. Detectives canvassed the area and observed Berian's 2013 BMW pulling up to the area of the explosion. Berian was taken into custody at the scene and evidence was collected from his car related to that explosion. Berian was arrested and booked at the Pasadena City Jail. Miraculously, there have been no reported injuries associated with these explosions.

On May 20, 2024, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed three felony counts of PC18740 (Explosives with Intent to Injure or Intimidate) against Berian with a bail set at \$1,500,000.

Anyone with information related to these incidents is encouraged to call the Pasadena Police at (626) 744-4241 or report information anonymously by contacting "Crime Stoppers" at (800) 222-TIPS (8477), via your smartphone by downloading the "P3 Tips" Mobile APP on Google Play or the Apple App Store, or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.

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