



## ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
420 West State Street Rockford, Illinois 61101-1288 815-987-5800  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CHET EPPERSON  
CHIEF OF POLICE

# INFORMATION RELEASE

**DATE & TIME**      10/17/11 8:55 AM

**Bureau:**              Field Services Bureau

**Authorized Supervisor:**    Sergeant Patrick Hoey, Community Services Unit

**Phone:**                815-987-5041 - 815-222-3324

**Incident:**              Condemnation of Forest City Recovery, 207 Peoples Avenue

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## MESSAGE

Forest City Recovery-207 Peoples Avenue-Rockford Illinois

The Rockford Police Department and the Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force have been investigating Forest City Recovery, 207 Peoples Avenue for several months. Forest City Recovery has been operating a salvage/scrap yard at this location.

In October 2010 a stolen vehicle and over 150 "open" vehicle titles were located on the property.

In April 2011 Rockford Police intercepted a semi-load of stolen used appliances. The driver admitted to taking this and other loads of appliances to Forest City Recovery.

In June 2011 The Secretary of State Police cited Forest City Recovery for being an unlicensed auto parts recycler and for failure to maintain documents for purchasing vehicles. Also, in June 2011 two more stolen vehicles were recovered from the property by Rockford Police and the Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force.

On September 12, 2011 Federal and local police confiscated approximately 3,000 pounds of cannabis on the property.

Also, in September 2011 Rockford Police Detectives located several catalytic converters on the property that were recently removed from vehicles. The Rockford Police Department and the Northern

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Illinois Auto Theft Task Force alerted the public regarding a recent rash of auto thefts. When the stolen vehicles were discovered the catalytic converters were missing.

It was determined that Forest City Recovery had an expired special use permit to operate business at 207 Peoples Avenue. Their application for a new permit was denied for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to the recovery of stolen vehicles and suspicious activity on the property.

On 10-13-2011 the Rockford Police, Rockford Public Works, Rockford Community Development and Legal Department, along with Agents of the Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force inspected the property and subsequently condemned the property for building and zoning issues.

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