

# Guilty pleas in theft of USFS recreation fees

Two El Dorado County residents have admitted they stole recreation fee tubes from the U.S. Forest Service and at other sites.

Brian Lisanti, 46, and Deseree Tougas, 26, both of Colfax, are scheduled to be in El Dorado County Superior Court on June 5 for a restitution hearing.

Lisanti remains in custody with no bail. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit a crime with theft and second degree felony burglary. He will serve 120 days in county jail and be on probation for four years.

Tougas posted \$50,000 bail. She pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of petty theft. She will serve a 45-day jail alternative sentence and be on probation for three years.

The case broke when officials with the Eldorado National Forest were told about a large number of used Forest Service fee envelopes found in a dumpster. The exact location of the thefts, amount of money stolen and time period the crimes occurred have not been released.

“This evidence indicated that over \$700 in visitor fees had been stolen from a forest recreation site on at least one occasion,” officials said in a press release.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*