SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
"Your Police, Our Community"
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: May 23, 2011/ 8:15 pm

LOCATION: Rankin St/ Surfside

TOPIC: Possession of Loaded Firearm in Vehicle/ Gang Enhancement

CASE NUMBER: 11S-04163

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

1. Name: Julio Chavez
DOB: 12-21-1989
Address: City of Santa Cruz

Arrested: [x] Yes [ ] No
Charges: 12031 pc-Possession of Loaded Firearm in Vehicle
186.22 (a) pc-Gang Enhancement

INFORMATION:

On May 23, 2011 at approximately 8:15 pm Officer Jose Garcia spotted a vehicle in the area of Rankin St and Surfside with false registration tabs. The driver was identified as Julio Chavez, who is a known Norteno (Northerner) Gang Member. Officer Garcia then utilized the skills of his K-9 partner Layko to do an exterior search of the vehicle for narcotics. Layko indicated narcotics were present inside the vehicle. Layko was then used to search the interior of the vehicle which resulted in the recovery of a loaded .22 caliber handgun under the rear passenger seat of the vehicle. A small amount of marijuana was found inside the vehicle as well.

Suspect Chavez was later booked into the Santa Cruz County Jail for being in possession of a loaded firearm inside a vehicle along with the gang enhancement charge. Charges for the possession of marijuana are being recommended to the District Attorney's Office.

For additional information, contact: Lieutenant Bernie Escalante Phone: (831) 420-5859

To Leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995

BY: Lt. Bernie Escalante

Authorized By: _____

DATE: May 23, 2011

Date: _____