

SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: July 29/30, 2011 – 11:00 pm – 1:00 am LOCATION: General area around Almar Ave.

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

1. Name: Unknown Subject(s) Arrested: [] Yes [X] No

Charges: Felony Vandalism – Possible Hate Crime

INFORMATION:

In the early morning of July 30, 2011 Santa Cruz Police Department officers began to receive multiple reports of vehicle vandalisms on the western side of the city. At this point approximately 50 vehicles are believed to have been vandalized, most with tire slashes, and at least 6 were found to have hate symbols painted on them. The highest concentration of vandalisms occurred in and around the Almar Avenue area. Officers believe the vandalisms occurred at some point between 11:00 pm July 29 and 1:00 am July 30, 2011. Investigators have been out processing the areas throughout the morning and working to collect items of evidentiary value. At this point there are no known suspect(s). Given the hate symbols that were painted on some of the vehicles investigators are working to potentially add a hate crime charge to the felony vandalisms. It is unclear if any particular vehicles/individuals were targeted or if this was a random act.

If you have any information regarding this incident you are encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department at (831) 420-5870 or leave a tip via www.santacruzpolice.com or our smartphone app. If you live in the area and were aware of any parties or gatherings that might have seen this individual(s) please contact our agency. You can also leave a tip via our anonymous tip line at (831) 420-5995.