



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT JOINT RELEASE
ARMED ROBBERY ARRESTS

DATE/TIME: August 6, 2012 – 8:54 pm [Arrest Time] **LOCATION:** Soquel and Morrissey [Arrest Location]

TOPIC: Armed Robbery ARRESTS

CASE NUMBER: 12S-06811, 12C-01307, 12C-01308,
12W-03925

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | Name: Rudy Ruiz | Arrested: ☒ Yes ☐ No |
| | DOB: 20 years-old | Charges: 211, 148(A), 25400(A), 186.22 |
| | Salinas Resident | |
| 2. | Name: Ruben Hernandez | Arrested: ☒ Yes ☐ No |
| | DOB: 20 years-old | Charges: 211, 148(A), 25400(A), 186.22 |
| | Salinas Resident | |

VICTIM(S)

AGE

Male [Santa Cruz Case]	24 years-old – Santa Cruz Resident
Male [Capitola Case]	23 years-old – Santa Cruz Resident
Male [Capitola Case]	24 years-old – Santa Cruz Resident
Male [Watsonville Case]	18 years-old – Watsonville Resident
Male [Watsonville Case]	22 years-old – Watsonville Resident

INFORMATION: On August 6, 2012, at 8:54 pm, the Santa Cruz Police Department responded to the 300 block of Gault Street for a report of an armed robbery that had just occurred. The victim stated that he had been robbed at gunpoint by two unknown Hispanic males that fled in a dark colored vehicle. Minutes earlier, a BOL had been broadcast regarding an armed robbery in Capitola that included similar vehicle and suspect descriptions. In addition, approximately 30 minutes before the Santa Cruz incident, Watsonville Police reported an armed robbery (again with similar descriptors) had occurred in their jurisdiction. In the Watsonville incident two male victims were robbed at gunpoint in the 100 block of W. Fifth Street. In Capitola, two males were robbed at gunpoint; one in the 2100 block of 41st Avenue and the other in the 4200 block of Capitola Road .

Officers responded to the Gault Street area, initiated Project ROPE and canvassed for possible suspects. One of the responding officers noticed a vehicle matching the description (a black BMW sedan) near Soquel and Capitola Road. A number of Santa

Cruz Police Department officers conducted a high-risk (felony) car stop in a parking lot at Morrissey and Soquel and detained the two occupants of the vehicle. The driver, Rudy Ruiz, refused multiple commands from officers. He was removed from the vehicle and within the vehicle the officers located a loaded .45 caliber handgun.

Watsonville and Capitola Police Departments responded to the scene to conduct in-field lineups. The victims in those cases identified Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Hernandez as being involved in the armed robberies. Santa Cruz Police Department detectives are conducting follow-up with the Santa Cruz victim to determine if these two suspects were involved in the SCPD case as well. Investigators in Capitola, Watsonville and Santa Cruz are collaborating on the investigation. The two suspects are believed to be gang members. Watsonville gang investigators are working with Salinas Police to determine additional information on the two suspects' gang involvement.

Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Hernandez were booked into the Santa Cruz County Jail for armed robbery, possession of a loaded concealed weapon and obstruction/delaying a peace officer.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact Santa Cruz Police Investigations at (831) 420-5820 or leave a tip via our website at www.santacruzpolice.com or mobile apps.

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

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