



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: August 3, 2013 12:16 AM

LOCATION: Valero, 1516 Soquel Ave

TOPIC: Robbery Suspects Arrested

CASE NUMBER: 13S-06370

INFORMATION:

In the early morning (12:16 AM) of August 3, 2013, Santa Cruz Police Department officers responded to a report of a robbery at the Valero gas station, 1516 Soquel Ave.

Officers learned that two suspects entered the store and attempted to rob the clerk at gunpoint. The clerk fled to the office and locked the door, calling 9-1-1. The robbers fled in a vehicle, unsuccessful in their robbery attempt. The clerk was not physically injured in the attack.

Santa Cruz Police Department initiated Project R.O.P.E. (a county-wide protocol to search for vehicles and suspects in major crimes). Earlier in the evening, Watsonville PD took a report of a carjacking. While working the Project R.O.P.E. detail, the suspect vehicle was spotted by Watsonville Police Officers. They noticed the car because it matched the description of their earlier carjacking. Watsonville PD initiated a pursuit and eventually apprehended the occupants of the car.

The Watsonville officers discovered evidence that was consistent with the suspects and description given in the Santa Cruz Police Department robbery. Further investigation by Watsonville PD and Santa Cruz determined these were the suspects responsible for the carjacking in Watsonville and robbery in Santa Cruz.

2 juvenile suspects were arrested and booked into Juvenile Hall for attempted robbery, possession of a firearm and participation in a criminal street gang. The juveniles are males ages 15 and 17. Both list Watsonville addresses and Norteno gang affiliations.

Two handguns were recovered during the arrest of the juveniles. They are believed to be the handguns used in the commission of the attempted robbery.

Santa Cruz Police Department commends the great observation skills and reaction by Watsonville PD. Great collaboration by both departments solving a significant crime in both jurisdictions.

For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark

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To Leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995 or use our mobile iPhone and Android App