



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE/TIME: February 3, 2014

TOPIC: Child Molestation Arrest

CASE NUMBER: 14S-00792

INFORMATION:

Santa Cruz Police Detectives worked throughout the weekend investigating a reported child molestation case. The investigation led to the arrest of:

Richard Lester Brode – 67 years old, Santa Cruz Resident (Photo on Page 2)

The case came to light after a mandated reporter contacted the Santa Cruz Police Department on January 31, 2014. Officers followed up on the information and learned of several events that involved Mr. Brode molesting young females. The investigation revealed that Mr. Brode had used force on his victims and forcefully held them against their will. The age of the victims is not being disclosed to protect their identity.

A search warrant served on Mr. Brode's residence led to the discovery of child pornography in Mr. Brode's possession. The child pornography consisted of digital photos and printed photos. Mr. Brode also had hard-bound books that contained child pornography, with titles such as "Child Women" and "Immediate Family".

Mr. Brode was booked into Santa Cruz County Jail on charges of (1) Assault with Intent to Commit Rape, (2) False Imprisonment, (3) Lewd Conduct with Child Under 14 years, and (4) Possession of Child Pornography.

Detectives are continuing to follow up on the case to determine if there are additional victims. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations Unit at (831) 420-5820.

For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark

Phone: (831) 420-5815

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

Richard Lester Brode

