



**SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**DATE/TIME:** September 1, 2014 6:00 PM

**LOCATION:** 1700 block of Soquel Ave

**TOPIC:** Officer Recovering from Stab Wound

**CASE NUMBER:** 14S-07247

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### **INFORMATION:**

An 8 year veteran of the Santa Cruz Police Department is recovering from a stab wound inflicted by a suicidal person he was attempting to apprehend.

On September 1, 2014, at approximately 6:00 PM, Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to a report of a suicidal person. Family members called the police reporting the suspect was suicidal and had cut his wrists. The suspect had fled from family members and was at-large.

The officer and his partner (a 14 year veteran) located and contacted the suspect:

Michael Paquette – 27 years, Santa Cruz resident

Mr. Paquette was found hiding in bushes behind a store in the 1700 block of Soquel Ave. The officers could see Mr. Paquette was bleeding from the wrists and not responding to their commands.

The officers approached and attempted to take the Mr. Paquette into custody for medical treatment and psychiatric evaluation. As the officers grabbed on to Mr. Paquette, he lashed out with a folding pocket knife. Mr. Paquette stabbed one officer in the leg just below the knee, and attempted to stab the second officer in the face. The second officer narrowly escaped being stabbed, as she deflected the attack.

As Mr. Paquette attacked the second officer, the injured officer drew and fired his Taser. The Taser darts struck Mr. Paquette and caused him to fall to the ground and drop the knife. The officers were able to handcuff Mr. Paquette without further resistance.

Mr. Paquette was taken to Dominican Hospital for medical treatment of his self-inflicted wounds and then booked at Santa Cruz County Jail for Assault with a Deadly Weapon Against a Police Officer.

The injured officer was treated and released at Dominican Hospital. He is home recovering from the stab wound. Photo of the suspect and knife attached.

**For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark**

**Phone: (831) 420-5815**

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Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; [www.santacruzpolice.com](http://www.santacruzpolice.com) . Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.

**Suspect Michael Paquette**



