



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE/TIME: October 2, 2014

LOCATION: Soquel Ave and Dakota Ave

TOPIC: Hit & Run / Attempted Homicide

CASE NUMBER: 14S-07882

INFORMATION:

Arrested: Jeremy Lee Anecito, 28 years old - Resident of the Live Oak area of Santa Cruz

The Santa Cruz Police Department investigated a hit and run collision that occurred on Wednesday September 24th. The collision occurred between a bicyclist and a pickup truck on Soquel Ave and Dakota Ave at approximately 8:48 AM.

Detectives launched a weeklong investigation that determined the collision was actually an intentional act, and a case of mistaken identity. The suspect mistakenly thought the bicyclist was a different person with whom he had a prior dispute. Witnesses reported that it appeared the driver intentionally accelerated and swerved to strike the bicyclist. Witnesses also described the driver as wearing a clown mask as he drove at, and struck the bicyclist.

The collision occurred as the truck was traveling eastbound on Soquel Avenue crossing the San Lorenzo River Bridge. The bicyclist was traveling eastbound along the westbound lanes (against the flow of traffic). Witnesses reported that the pickup truck accelerated to the point of squealing tires and driving on the wrong side of the road to hit the bicyclist.

Outstanding detective work eventually led to the discovery of the truck involved and then the driver. On October 1st, the truck was discovered in the parking garage for the Saint George Hotel. The truck was impounded for evidence and will be processed next week. The truck is a green 1995 Chevy pickup truck. The vehicle sustained damaged to the right rear. And yes, there is actually a clown mask still in the truck.

The suspect, Jeremy Anecito was found in a room at the Saint George. He was taken into custody and eventually booked at the Santa Cruz County jail for Attempted Homicide. Mr. Anecito has a history of arrests with our department.

Evidence and information in the case, including limited admissions by the suspect led to the charge of Attempted Homicide as this was clearly an intentional act.

The bicyclist is a 39 year old transient from Santa Cruz. He has a significant history of contacts and arrests with law enforcement. The bicyclist sustained life-threatening injuries and was airlifted to a Bay Area trauma center where he is recovering.

For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark

Phone: (831) 420-5815

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



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