



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

MEDIA RELEASE



Incident

DATE/TIME: Friday 2/26/16 @ 11:45 PM and Saturday 2/27/16 @ 12:08 AM

TOPIC:

Stabbing Investigation – Location: Pacific Ave & Center Street

Shooting Investigation – Location: Cedar St & Cathcart Street

CASE NUMBER: 16S-01719 and 16S-001721

INFORMATION:

Last night, Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to two incidents of suspected gang violence that occurred in the City of Santa Cruz.

Case 16S-01719

On Friday 2/26/16 at 11:45 p.m., Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to the 7-11 on Ocean Street on a report of a victim with multiple stab wounds. The victim, a male, age 19 from Watsonville claimed to have been stabbed in the area of Pacific Ave and Center Street. The victim waved down a Good Samaritan who began to drive the victim to the hospital. While enroute, the victim's injuries worsened and his condition declined. The Good Samaritan driver called 911 and stopped at the nearest parking lot so that the victim could be treated by EMS staff.

The victim sustained multiple knife wounds to his face and torso. He was transported to a Bay Area trauma center where he is still undergoing treatment.

Santa Cruz Police Officers arrived at the location of the initial crime scene. Evidence was discovered to substantiate the stabbing had occurred near the intersection of Pacific Ave. and Center Street.

Detectives are continuing to follow up on leads and looking for additional video evidence. Gang investigators are following up this information and any possible ties to this incident.

Anyone with information or who may have witnessed this stabbing are asked to contact investigators. Contact investigators at 831- 420-5820. Tips can also be left through the means listed below.

Case 16S-01721

On Saturday 2/27/16, approximately 12:08 a.m., the Santa Cruz Police Department responded to reports of gunfire in the area of Cedar Street and Cathcart Street. Upon arrival SCPD Officers located a victim of gunshot wounds on the sidewalk near the intersection. The victim is a male, age 27, from Watsonville. He sustained gunshot wounds to his hand and lower back and transported to a Bay Area trauma center. The victim is recovering from surgery and is in stable condition. No one else was injured during the attack. The suspects are still at large.

Based on preliminary statements from the victim and witnesses, the information suggests the shooting is gang related. In the course the attack, a suspect chased after the victim and fired multiple times.

SCPD Officers and Investigators closed a majority of the area for an in-depth search for evidence. Multiple casings and bullet fragments were found in the parking lot downtown. One downtown building was struck multiple times. One of the rounds shattered a window. SCPD Officers also canvassed the businesses and neighborhoods contacting potential witnesses.

Both suspects fled the area. The suspects and the firearm are all still outstanding. Santa Cruz Police Detectives are continuing to examine evidence, interview witnesses and collect video surveillance.

Anyone with information relative to the suspect's identity is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Investigation Unit at (831) 420-5820. Tipsters can also leave an anonymous tip via the methods below.

For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke

Phone: (831) 420-5844

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.