



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

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**DATE/TIME:** Wednesday October 12, 2016

**LOCATION:** 900 block of Pacific Avenue

**TOPIC:** Investigate Suspicious Device Determined to be Non-Destructive

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### **INFORMATION:**

At approximately 8:30 am this morning, the Santa Cruz Police Department investigated a report of a suspicious device found at the Metro Center on Pacific Avenue. Santa Cruz Police worked swiftly to evaluate the device and determine that it was non-destructive. Officers determined that the suspicious device had been left behind by third party maintenance vendor.

The device is a custom fabricated battery left behind by a third party repair crew working at the Metro Center yesterday. The custom fabrication of the battery gave the appearance of a possible explosive device that was placed on an electric panel.

This morning, Metro employees came across the device and immediately contacted Santa Cruz Police. Officers arrived on scene to find a cylindrical device with electrical tape and wires protruding from the pipe.

While investigating the situation, Santa Cruz Police took the necessary precautions and closed off the streets surrounding the Metro Center. Within an hour, Officers were able to determine the device was a custom fabricated battery and posed no threat. Shortly thereafter, the streets and the Metro Center were open for business.

There is no evidence to support the perception that the third party vendor intended to create alarm. The device was collected and returned to the repair company.

Photo attached.

**For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke**

**Phone: (831) 420-5844**

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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.

Photo of non-destructive suspicious device

