



SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE / COMMUNITY ALERT

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Thursday, January 23, 2020

SMPD Arrests Three for Armed Robberies from Earlier this Month with Assistance from Fresno PD

San Mateo Police Department Detectives identified and arrested three Fresno residents in connection with armed robberies that occurred in the early morning hours of January 6, 2020. The Fresno Police Department, Fresno County Sheriff's Office, and the Fresno County Probation Office aided in the identification and arrest of the suspects.

San Mateo, CA – On Monday, January 6, 2020, SMPD Police Officers responded to two separate reports of armed robberies occurring on city streets. The first incident occurred at approximately 2am. The victim was walking to work in the area of E. Poplar Avenue/N. Humboldt Street when he was approached by an armed female, who exited a black SUV parked nearby. The female pointed a gun at him and demanded his backpack, which only contained his work uniform. The suspect then threatened to shoot the victim as she returned to the waiting vehicle driven by a male subject.

The second incident occurred minutes later at 2:10am. The victim was walking home on the 1000 block of S. El Camino Real when he was approached by a female pointing a firearm at him demanding his wallet. He was then pistol whipped, the wallet taken, and the suspect fled to an awaiting vehicle driven by a male subject and occupied by an additional female. Thankfully, the victim suffered only minor injuries. Based on descriptions from both incidents, it was believed both armed robberies were committed by the same suspect(s).

Officers learned the victim's credit cards had been used at several locations in Fresno, Calif. SMPD detectives took over the investigation. Working diligently over the next several days, and with the assistance of Fresno PD, detectives obtained security footage from the numerous locations where the fraudulent credit card charges were made. Images of the three suspects, as well as a license plate of the vehicle used were captured by store surveillance. SMPD detectives were able to circulate photos of the three subjects associated with the crimes to officers from both Fresno PD and Fresno County Sheriff's Office, who were able to provide possible identifications. Our detectives were able to positively identify the three suspects in our cases as probationer Candelario Alviar (armed suspect), probationer Marc Rodriguez (driver), and the additional passenger, identified as parolee Roxanne Gonzales; all from Fresno. The suspect vehicle, a black Chevy Equinox, had been towed by Fresno PD on January 7, 2020 for an unrelated parking violation. SMPD detectives went to Fresno, where they were able to locate our victim's wallet in the car.

During an unrelated traffic stop on January 10, 2020, another vehicle in which both Marc Rodriguez and Roxanne Gonzales were passengers in was contacted. The firearm believed to have been used to pistol whip our second victim was recovered in the backseat near Rodriguez. Both subjects were arrested on charges unrelated to our crimes at the time.

On January 17, 2020 arrest warrants were issued for all three subjects. Yesterday, SMPD detectives returned to Fresno in an order to arrest all three. Rodriguez, who was already in custody on charges stemming from the incident on January 10th, was arrested on our warrant, and with the assistance of Fresno PD, both Gonzales and Alviar were arrested as well. Ammunition and a second firearm were located at the time of the warrant service. All subjects are currently in custody of the Fresno County Sheriff's Office (contact them for official booking photos).

We are grateful to our allied agencies in Fresno, as they were instrumental in aiding in our investigation. Through dogged police work, SMPD detectives were able to take three violent offenders off the street. All have an extensive criminal history and their capture is a testament to good ole "pounding the pavement" police work!

While SMPD continues to investigate this case, anyone with information related to these incidents are encouraged to contact the SMPD Investigations Bureau at (650)522-7650.

SMPD has a few robbery prevention tips to share with our community:

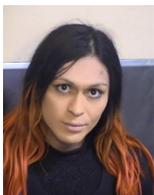
- Stay alert!
- Trust your instincts. If you sense danger, move away from it and call the police
- Travel with others and walk in well-lit areas
- Keep your valuables out of sight
- Utilize public places or Safe Exchange Zones to complete internet transactions, and save all documentation

In the event of a robbery, SMPD here are some helpful tips:

- Call 9-1-1 immediately and remain on the line
- Don't chase the robber. Leave this to the police
- Don't touch anything the robber may have touched
- Write down a description of the robber and weapon as soon as you are able
- If the robber had a car, write down the color, make, model, license plate, and direction of travel

ARRESTED

Suspect #1: Candelario Alviar, age 23, Fresno, CA.



Charges: 212.5(c) PC Robbery, 182(a)(1) PC Conspiracy, 496(a) PC Possession of Stolen Property, 245(a)(2) PC Assault with a Firearm, 12022.53(b) PC Use of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, 12022.7 PC Causing Great Bodily Injury while Committing a Felony, 530.5 PC Unauthorized Use of a Credit Card, 460(b) PC Burglary, and 484G PC Fraudulent Use of Access Cards

Suspect #2: Marc Rodriguez, age 29, Fresno, CA.



Charges: 212.5(c) PC Robbery, 182(a)(1) PC Conspiracy, 530.5 PC Unauthorized Use of a Credit Card, 460(b) PC Burglary, 484G PC Fraudulent Use of Access Cards, and 496(d) PC Possession of Stolen Property

Suspect #3: Roxanne Gonzales, age 34, Fresno, CA.



Charges: 212.5(c) PC Robbery, 182(a)(1) PC Conspiracy, and 496(d) PC Possession of Stolen Property

MEDIA CONTACT FOR 1/23/2020 - 2/2/2020

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