



## SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ed Barberini  
Chief of Police

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### **MEDIA RELEASE / COMMUNITY ALERT**

**For Immediate Release No. 20250122-005**

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025**

#### **Two Separate Thefts, Two Arrests**

*Two suspects were arrested in two separate thefts, booked into jail.*

San Mateo, CA – On January 21, 2025, the San Mateo Police Department received calls from two different businesses regarding thefts that just occurred. The thefts happened at Macys, located at the Hillsdale Shopping Center and at Safeway, located on the 1600 block of South El Camino Real. Officers responded to locations and arrested both suspects. Both suspects had prior convictions for theft and the suspects were booked into the San Mateo County Jail.

At 8:46 p.m., we received a call from Macys employees about a theft that just occurred. The suspect, Jennifer Garcia, had stolen approximately \$256 worth of merchandise and was stopped by Loss Prevention Agents. Officers responded to Macys, spoke to witnesses and reviewed surveillance camera footage. A review of Garcia's previous arrests showed she was convicted of two or more thefts. Garcia was placed under arrest and booked into the San Mateo County Jail.

A few hours later at 10:42 p.m., officers received another report of a theft that just occurred at Safeway and officers responded to the location, meeting with store employees. After speaking with the employees, officers met with the suspect who gave officers a false name. Officers were eventually able to identify the suspect as, Leanne Chavez Rodriguez. Chavez Rodriguez had stolen approximately \$643 worth of merchandise. A review of Chavez Rodriguez' previous arrests revealed that she had been convicted of two or more thefts. Chavez Rodriguez was arrested and booked into the San Mateo County Jail.

We need the community's support in reporting crimes and being a good witness. If you witness a crime, contact police immediately. Try to remain as calm as possible and do your best to answer questions on the phone. Remember details such as the suspect's appearance, clothing, any distinguishing features, and which direction they flee. Once the police arrive at the scene, cooperate fully, and provide the officers with all the information you have. Your observations can greatly assist law enforcement in their investigation.

#### **ARRESTED**

Jennifer Garcia, 54-year-old Burlingame resident.

#### **CHARGES:**

666.1 PC- Theft with prior convictions.

**ARRESTED**

Leanne Chavez Rodriguez, 33-year-old San Mateo resident.

**CHARGES:**

666.1 PC- Theft with prior convictions, 459.5(a) PC- Shoplifting, 148.9(a) PC- Providing false identification to a police officer.

**MEDIA CONTACT**

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