



SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE / COMMUNITY ALERT

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Suspect Arrested for Vehicle Theft, Petty Theft, and Multiple Drug Charges

Following multiple reports of vehicle and property theft from the evening prior, multiple law enforcement agencies, including air support, located the suspect's vehicle in a neighboring city the following day. The vehicle failed to yield during a traffic stop, and several law enforcement assets followed the vehicle through multiple counties. The vehicle eventually stopped in a neighboring city, and after a short foot pursuit, the suspect was arrested for vehicle theft, petty theft, and multiple drug charges.

San Mateo, CA – On July 15, 2025, at 6:24 p.m., the San Mateo Police Department investigated a report of vehicle theft related to a residence on the 400 block of N Idaho Street. Multiple reports were taken the same evening involving the same possible suspect committing auto burglaries in the area, and the investigation continued into the following day. The suspect vehicle was eventually located, and outside agency officers attempted to perform a traffic stop via a multi-agency response, including the help of air support, but the vehicle failed to yield.

Numerous law enforcement assets trailed the vehicle through several counties, and the vehicle ultimately stopped in San Francisco. The suspect in this multi-report investigation, identified as Brian Tapia, initially fled on foot, but was ultimately arrested for vehicle theft, vehicle tampering, petty theft, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of a controlled substance without prescription. Tapia was transported to the San Mateo County Jail, where he was booked for his charges.

ARRESTED

Brian Tapia, 30 years old, San Leandro resident

CHARGES:

VC 10851-Vehicle theft, VC 10852-Vehicle tampering, two counts of PC 484 (a)-Petty theft, HS 11364-Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, HS 11377(a)-Possession of a Controlled Substance, HS 11375(b) (2)-Possession of a Controlled Substance Without Prescription

MEDIA CONTACT

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