



Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

Chris Dewey
Chief of Police

Press Release

TO: Press

RE: Ukiah Police Department Case Number #12-2007

7/14/2012

On 07/14/2012 at about 7:05 PM, a Ukiah Police Department Officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle, a 1990 white Toyota pickup, traveling W/B in the 200 block of Talmage Rd. The Driver, Gerardo Gonzalez (age 21 of Ukiah), attempted to evade the officer and fled in the vehicle he was driving. Gonzalez ran a stop light at the intersection of State St. and Talmage Rd. and turned N/B on State St. Gonzalez failed to yield to the officers lights and siren. Gonzalez turned W/B on to Observatory Ave. where speeds of approx. 60 mph were attained. Gonzalez ran the stop sign at Observatory Ave. and turned S/B on to S. Dora St. Gonzalez rapidly turned into the parking lot at 1165 S. Dora St. and then N/B in the lot towards Observatory Ave. Gonzalez' vehicle appeared to have mechanical problems and came to a stop, leaking a lot of fluid.

One of Gonzalez' passengers (Juan Carlos Lopez age 23 of Willits) immediately fled on foot from the vehicle. Gonzalez, as well as the remaining passenger (Luis Manuel Ayala-Ortiz age 20 of Ukiah) were arrested at the scene.

Additional units from the Ukiah Police Department, the California Highway Patrol, and Mendocino County Sheriffs Department responded to the area to assist. Juan Carlos Lopez was observed running in the area of the 200 block of Luce Ave. Juan Carlos Lopez ran through numerous yards and then into the St. Mary's Church (900 S. Oak St.). St. Mary's Church Mass was in session and Juan Carlos Lopez tried to hide from officers in the Mass service. Juan Carlos Lopez was located and arrested inside the Church.

It was determined that Juan Carlos Lopez had a felony warrant for absconding from his Parole, as well as two local arrest warrants.

Gerardo Gonzalez was booked in the county jail for:

- 2800.2(a) CVC recklessly evading
- 23152(a) CVC driving under the influence of alcohol
- 23152(b) CVC driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol level of .08%



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Juan Carlos Lopez was booked into the county jail for:

- 3056 PC-violation of Parole warrant
- 148(a)(1) PC-resist or delay an officer
- 2 local warrants (one for hit and run traffic collision and the other for violation of probation)

Luis Manuel Ayala-Ortiz was booked into the county jail for:

- 647(f) PC-public intoxication

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By Sergeant Cedric Crook
