



## Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

**Chris Dewey**  
Chief of Police

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

On April 19<sup>th</sup> at about 4:15 PM Ukiah Police responded to the Alex Thomas Plaza, in the 300 block of South State Street, for an assault. Officers located the 54 year old male victim unconscious and lying on his back. The victim was bleeding from his mouth, nose, and ear and had possibly sustained a serious head injury. The victim was transported to the Ukiah Valley Medical Center and later flown to an out of the area hospital for further treatment.

Witnesses were contacted and officers determined the victim was seen passed out and lying in the grass. The victim awoke and was walking around the park unbalanced and staggering. Witnesses saw the victim speaking with a subject known as 28 year old Anthony Eugene Gonzales, when for unknown reasons Gonzales punched the victim in the side of the head. The victim appeared to have been immediately rendered unconscious from the punch and fell backwards possibly striking his head on the pavement. Gonzales was seen standing over the victim and punching him one more time. Gonzales was then seen engaging in casual conversation with several others, and when told the police had been notified, Gonzales returned to the victim and attempted to wake him up without success. Gonzales then walked from the park and possibly left in a vehicle.

Officers began attempting to locate Gonzales, and soon learned he was at the Buddy Eller shelter on Brush Street. Officer located Gonzales and took him into custody without incident. Gonzales initially claimed he struck the victim in self-defense, and then later admitted he hit the victim because he was angered at the victim's intoxication and with how he was talking to another subject. Gonzales was booked into the County Jail for assault with serious injury. An updated condition of the victim is not known at this time. 14-1132

Prepared by Captain Justin Wyatt

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