



Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

Chris Dewey
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

On August 22nd at about 9:30 PM Ukiah Police responded to a parking lot in the 200 block of Observatory Avenue for reports of gang members gathering possibly preparing to fight. Arriving officers observed numerous subjects run away, and contacted several subjects who had tried to hide from the officers. One of the subjects, a 15 year old female juvenile, was extremely intoxicated and belligerent, and was arrested for public intoxication. The female initially provided a relative's name, and was later found to be on probation which included terms to stay away from gang members and not to consume alcohol. The female juvenile was charged with public intoxication, personation of another and violating probation. A knife which had been discarded was located by officers at the scene, and several subjects bearing gang tattoos and wearing gang clothing were contacted but no other violations were observed and the subjects were released.

Several hours later, on August 23rd at about 2:00 AM Ukiah Police responded to Observatory Avenue near State Street for multiple gun shots in the area. Arriving officers contacted witnesses, and observed at least one subject flee the area. Officers were directed to a young adult male who had been shot and was bleeding, and arranged for him to be transported to the Ukiah Valley Medical Center where he was treated for a gunshot wound. Officers determined a confrontation between numerous subjects, believed to be gang related, occurred in the roadway and at least one subject discharged a firearm numerous times. Officers determined an additional subject may have been struck by gun fire but had fled the scene. Ukiah Police Detectives responded and obtained additional statements and processed evidence located at the scene.

Ukiah Police Officers focused their patrol efforts on locating the additional gunshot victim and witnesses who had fled the scene, and at about 3:30 AM contacted a group in the 100 block of Seminary Avenue. One of the subjects was on parole and another, 31 year old Jose Ramirez was on probation for possessing methamphetamine, and both are believed to be gang members. Ramirez was found to have a warrant for his arrest for violating probation, and was arrested. Ramirez was found to have a methamphetamine smoking pipe in his possession, as well as some documents determined to have been derived from stolen mail. Ramirez was charged with the warrant, possessing drug paraphernalia, possessing stolen property, and violating probation. An adult female in the group was found to possess a large, concealed knife, and weapons charges are being sought with the District Attorney.

The second subject thought to have been struck by gun fire was later located and found to be uninjured. The shooting remains under investigation and anyone with information is asked to call the Ukiah Police Department at 463-6262.

Prepared by Captain Justin Wyatt



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