



Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

Chris Dewey

Chief of Police

Press Release: Report of subject shot in a local park / leads to arrests UPD case # 17-2427

On August 24th at about 4:48 pm, UPD Officers were dispatched to Vinewood Park off of Elm Street, regarding an adult male that had just shot someone in the park. Due to the seriousness of the call, all available UPD units responded with lights and sirens, along with the assistance of MCSO deputies, Probation and the District Attorney's Investigators. A UPD unit and MCSO Deputy were in an area nearby when the call was dispatched.

Upon arrival a male subject was seen running from the area, but was caught and detained by officers. The male subject was identified as Leon Marks Jr. age 25, with an address listed out of Ukiah. Marks was found to be in possession of a CO2 pellet gun that resembled a semi-auto handgun, along with a large straight bladed knife. Another male subject was located in the park and identified as Jesse Lawrence age 19, with an address provided out of Potter Valley. Lawrence was found to be in possession of an illegal expandable baton. During the subsequent investigation officers learned that Marks had confronted Lawrence in the park, regarding a prior incident. Marks and Lawrence were arguing when Marks pulled out a large knife and began swinging it toward Lawrence. Lawrence then displayed an expandable baton, which led Marks to produce a pellet gun. Marks then shot Lawrence several times. Marks was placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon and brandishing a weapon. Lawrence was placed under arrest for possession of the illegal expandable baton. Neither were seriously injured and both were booked into county jail.

As always, our mission at UPD is simple: to make Ukiah as safe as possible. If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cell phone and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button on our website: www.ukiahpolice.com.