



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police

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****MEDIA RELEASE****

Proactive Patrol Leads to Chase and Arrest 06/28/2024

On June 27, 2024, at approximately 2:30 AM, Fort Bragg police officers were conducting extra patrol in the 500 block of S. Harrison Street due to recent thefts in the area.

While patrolling, officers observed a suspicious subject who appeared to be hiding and lying next to a parked vehicle. The subject was wearing dark clothing and a mask. When officers attempted to contact the subject, they immediately fled on foot. With the assistance of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, officers and deputies pursued the suspect for several blocks, but ultimately lost sight of him. Officers searched where the suspect was first seen hiding and found a loaded unregistered 9-millimeter firearm and a loaded high capacity 9-milimeter magazine hidden under a parked vehicle.

Approximately 45 minutes later, while continuing to check the area, officers located a 17-year-old juvenile suspect running through the area in dark clothing wearing a mask. The juvenile suspect was about one block from where the firearm was located.

The juvenile was arrested for the following violations: 647(F) PC (public intoxication) and 9.76.020 of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code (juvenile violating curfew). Additional felony charges are pending fingerprinting results from the found 9-milimeter firearm and magazine.

During the foot pursuit, one Fort Bragg police officer sustained minor injuries, was treated at the Adventist Health Emergency Room, and is expected to make a full recovery.

Chief Neil Cervenka said, "I am very proud of our team. This type of proactive patrol efforts by our night shift officers is what prevents crime and ensures our community can sleep peacefully."

Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact Officer Baker of the Fort Bragg Police Department at (707)961-2800 ext 226.



This information is being released by Captain Thomas O'Neal. All media inquiries should contact him at toneal@fortbragg.com.

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