Incident: Violent Crime Incident

Location: 200-600 Blocks of E. Main St. Ventura, CA

Date/Time Occurred: 09/15/16 @ 0600 hours

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol and VPD Patrol Task Force,

Suspect(s): Forrest Brantley 35 yrs.

Report #: 16-12913

Narrative:

On 09/15/16 at about 6:00 am, the Ventura Police Command Center received multiple 9-1-1 calls regarding a person out of control in the 200 block of E. Main Street in the downtown area. Ventura Police Patrol Officers responded to the area and learned the following.

The suspect, Forrest Brantley, committed a burglary by breaking into the gift shop at the Ventura Mission. He stole two crucifixes from the gift shop and then left. Brantley approached one person in the parking lot of the Ventura Mission and demanded that victim’s phone. When the victim refused to give Brantley the phone, Brantley hit that victim with one of the crucifixes. Brantley then began walking down Main Street and did the same thing to two more victims, striking them with the crucifix. At one point, Brantley approached a 75 year old man who was sitting in his vehicle. Brantley broke the window to the man’s vehicle and struck the man, causing him injury.

After battering and attempting to rob multiple victims, Brantley continued walking eastbound on Main Street. Brantley then broke the window to the ARC thrift shop in the 200 block of Main Street and stole a bicycle from the store, committing another burglary. As Brantley continued eastbound he approached another victim in the 300 block of Main Street and battered that victim by striking him with the crucifix.

Victims and witnesses began following Brantley and watched as he continued traveling towards the intersection at Chestnut St and Main St. Ventura Police Officers arrived and took Brantley into custody at that location without incident.

Brantley was ultimately booked into the Ventura County Jail for multiple charges including: (3) counts of attempted robbery, (2) counts of commercial burglary, (1) count of assault with a deadly weapon, (2) counts of vandalism, and (1) count of elder abuse.

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to $1,000.
One of the victims (the 75 year old male) sustained a moderate injury to the face and was treated at a local hospital. The other victims sustained minor injuries. Neither Brantley, nor the arresting officers were injured during the incident.