

CITY OF
VENTURA
POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander, (805) 339-4416
Release Prepared by: Commander Ryan Weeks
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Armed Robbery with Arrests

Location: Olive Street at Mission Avenue

Date/Time Occurred: 12/07/16 @ 0101 hours

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol

Victim: Names withheld

Suspect(s):

#1: Francisco Banda 21 years – Oxnard resident

#2: Alejandro Araujo 20 years – Oxnard resident

Report #: 16-16845

Narrative:

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a call from two victims, indicating that they had been robbed at knifepoint. Ventura Police Department patrol officers responded to assist the victims and learned the following. The victims were walking together in the area of Olive Street and Mission Avenue, when they were approached by two male suspects. One of the suspects threatened the victims with a knife and demanded the victims' property. Fearing for their lives, the victims handed over their property, which included a wallet and a set of keys. The suspects then entered a white Nissan Altima and fled the area.

As patrol officers responded to assist the victims, another VPD patrol officer observed a white Nissan Altima traveling at a high rate of speed on the southbound 101 Freeway near Victoria Avenue. The officer initiated a traffic stop on that vehicle, believing that it may be the suspect vehicle. There were two occupants in the vehicle, who were later identified as, Banda and Araujo. The victims were able to positively identify Banda and Araujo as the suspects who had robbed them. During a search of the suspect vehicle, officers found property belonging to the victims. It was later determined that the weapon brandished by the suspects was likely a screwdriver.

Both suspects were placed under arrest for robbery and conspiracy to commit a crime. Both were lodged at the Ventura County Jail.

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.

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Anyone with information about this crime is asked to contact the Ventura Police Department at 339-4488. An anonymous tip can be made by calling Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-TIPS.

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