



NEWS RELEASE

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VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Felony Discharge of a Firearm

Location: 500 Harbor Blvd. (Parking Structure)

Date/Time Occurred: 12/12/16 @ 2221 hrs.

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol

Suspect(s): John Eldridge, 45 years, Vagrant

Report #: 16-17155

Narrative:

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call of shots being fired on the promenade near the Harbor Blvd. parking structure. It was reported several bystanders had disarmed the suspect and were trying to detain him. Prior to units arriving on scene the suspect, later identified as John Eldridge, was able to leave the area on foot. He was located by officers near the pier and detained.

During the investigation officers determined that Eldridge and several other vagrants were gathered on the promenade when they got into a verbal argument. At one point, Eldridge removed a firearm from his waistband and fired two rounds into the air. The other vagrants involved in the altercation disarmed Eldridge and tried to physically detain him. Eldridge was able to break free and left the area on foot. He was not able to regain possession of the firearm.

At the conclusion of the investigation, Eldridge was arrested for felony discharging of a firearm in public. He was transported to VCMC for treatment of injuries he sustained during the physical altercation and later booked at the Ventura County Jail.

No one else was injured as a result of the incident.

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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