



NEWS RELEASE

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

Incident: Prowling, Attempted Theft, Resisting Arrest

Location: 1694 Eastman Ave. (Taft Electric)

Date/Time Occurred: 03/25/17 @ 2149 hrs.

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol, Ventura Police K-9, Ventura County Sheriff's Department Helicopter

Suspect(s): Michael Rivera, 52 years, Vagrant

Report #: 17-3995

Narrative:

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department's Command Center received a call from an alarm company reporting an alarm at Taft Electric, 1694 Eastman Ave., with a subject seen on surveillance camera prowling on the property. Officers arrived on scene and set up a perimeter around the business.

While officers were searching the property the suspect, later identified as Michael Rivera, was seen in a rear storage yard. When he saw the officers, Rivera fled further into the storage yard to where several company vehicles and other heavy equipment were stored. This gave Rivera access to heavy piping and metal objects. Officers lost sight of him, but it was believed he had found a place to hide.

Due to the close proximity of possible weapons and Rivera's refusal to surrender when announcements were made by officers to reveal himself, a Ventura Police K-9 was called to the scene to help in the search. The Ventura County Sheriff's Helicopter also responded to assist in the search.

After several minutes of searching, the K-9 located Rivera hiding in the frame of a dump truck, which was not visible to the helicopter.

Rivera was taken into custody after receiving a minor dog bite to his foot. After he was medically cleared at VCMC, Rivera was booked in the Ventura County Jail for prowling, attempt theft and resisting arrest.

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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