



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander, (805) 339-4416
Release Prepared by: Sergeant Bill Dolan
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Gang Vandalism, child endangerment

Location: Numerous locations along Coronado St, Santa Ynez St, South Santa Cruz St, and Ocean Ave in the City of Ventura

Date/Time Occurred: 05/13/17 @ 1247 hours

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol

Suspect(s): Javier Rangel 21 years old (Ventura Resident)

Report #: 17-06171

Narrative:

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a call of a subject spray painting graffiti along the streets listed above. The witness followed the suspect down several streets and witnessed him tagging several buildings and fences along his path. The witness pointed the subject out to officers who arrived on scene soon after.

The suspect was contacted and identified as a documented Ventura Avenue Gang member named Javier Rangel. Rangel was accompanied by a 6 year old juvenile who was carrying several cans of spray paint, and marijuana given to him by Rangel. During the investigation it was learned that Rangel handed these items to the juvenile when Rangel saw officers approaching.

Officers located and documented the graffiti along Rangel's path. The graffiti was gang tagging commonly associated to the Ventura Avenue Gang.

During the officers investigation they were told Rangel stole the spray paint and other items from a vehicle somewhere along his path. Officers were unable to locate a victim vehicle. If anyone has information for any of these crimes, please contact the Ventura Police department.

Rangel, who is currently on probation for Robbery, was booked at the Ventura County Jail for Felony Vandalism, Child endangerment, along with a felony gang enhancement. The Juvenile was released to his mother at the scene.

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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