



## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander (805) 339-4416  
Release Prepared by: Commander Tom Higgins

**Incident:** Suicidal Subject

**Location:** California St. overcrossing at Highway 101

**Date/Time Occurred:** 11/15/17 @ 1306 hours

**Officer(s) Involved:** Ventura PD Patrol, Ventura City Fire, California Highway Patrol

**Victim(s):** Male Adult, 19 years, Ventura Resident

**Report Number:** 17-15087

**Narrative:**

On the above date and time, a Ventura Police Officer was on patrol when he observed a subject, later identified as a 19-year-old male adult, standing on the outside railing of the California St. overcrossing of Highway 101. The subject was standing on the catwalk of a freeway sign, which was approximately 20 feet above the roadway and vehicles travelling in the southbound lanes of the highway.

The officer immediately made verbal contact with the subject and began attempts to negotiate with him, while additional officers closed California St., and the California Highway Patrol closed both the northbound and southbound lanes of Highway 101. The Ventura City Fire Department was also called to the scene and remained on scene for the duration of the incident.

At first the subject was uncooperative although the officer, who is trained in crisis intervention, continued attempts to negotiate with the subject for approximately 1.5 hours. Several times while the officer was speaking to the subject, he would move towards the edge of the freeway sign and made movements as if he was going to jump. The officer was finally able to convince the subject to climb back over the railing onto California St. Once he was safely away from the ledge, officers detained the subject.

He was later transported to Ventura County Mental Health for an evaluation.

All of the roadways were reopened after the incident. The train service in the area was slowed for a period of time until the incident was resolved.

*The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at [www.venturapd.org](http://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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