

CITY OF
VENTURA
POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander (805) 339-4416
Release Prepared by: Cmdr. Sam Arroyo
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Stabbing—Homicide ***UPDATE***

Location: 500 E. Harbor Blvd

Date/Time Occurred: 12/25/2017 @ 2154 Hrs.

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol, Ventura PD Detectives

Victim: Joseph Cruz, 30 years

Suspect(s): Chris Gallegos, 20 years, Ventura
Male Juvenile, 16 years, Ventura
Male Juvenile, 17 years, Ventura

Report #: 17-17096

Narrative:

Update: During this investigation, Ventura Police Detectives learned that the victim was approached by three suspects on the second floor of the parking structure located at 500 E. Harbor Blvd. The suspects attacked the victim and began battering and stabbing him. Video surveillance in the area captured the attack. Ventura Police Detectives were able to identify the suspects, who are known members of a local gang. It appears that the victim was targeted by the suspects and this was not a random crime.

On December 27th at approximately 1730 hrs., with the assistance of Ventura Police SWAT, investigators served a search warrant at the residence of Gallegos located in the 200 block of W. Simpson St. in Ventura. Gallegos was located at the residence and was taken into custody. He was booked into Ventura County Jail for Murder, Street Terrorism, and Conspiracy.

On December 28th, 2018, at approximately 1035 hrs., the 17 year old juvenile suspect was seen in the 200 block of West Ramona Street. Ventura Police officers surrounded the area and a team of SWAT officers conducted a search for the suspect. At approximately 1426 hours, he was located hiding inside a residence and taken into custody without incident. The suspect will be booked into Ventura County Juvenile Hall for Murder, Street Terrorism, and Conspiracy.

The 16-year-old juvenile is currently in custody at Ventura County Juvenile Hall for an unrelated case. The 16 year old juvenile will be booked for Murder, Street Terrorism, and Conspiracy.

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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On the above date and time the Ventura Police Command Center received a call in reference to a stabbing that occurred at the city parking structure located at 500 East Harbor Blvd. Ventura PD patrol officers responded to the call and upon arrival, located the victim who sustained numerous stab wounds to his body. The victim was transported to Ventura County Medical Center where he later died from his injuries.

Ventura Police Detectives were notified and have taken over the investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective Tyler Buck at 805-339-4462.

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.

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