



## NEWS RELEASE

**Contact: Watch Commander, (805) 339-4416**  
**Release Prepared by: Sergeant Tank Sears**  
**VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Incident:** Possession of Narcotics / Resisting Arrest

**Location:** Harbor Blvd. / Peninsula Rd.

**Date/Time Occurred:** 02/10/23 / 1255 hours

**Officer(s) Involved:** Ventura Police Patrol, VPD Street Crimes Unit, California Highway Patrol, California State Parks.

**Suspect(s):** Nathan Mercer, 02/15/99, Ventura Resident

**Report #:** 23-8781

**Narrative:**

On 02/10/23 at about 1255 hours, Ventura Police officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 900 block of Peninsula Rd. A passenger in the car, later identified as suspect Nathan Mercer, fled on foot from the vehicle. Mercer ran through several backyards, across Harbor Blvd., and onto the US 101 freeway. A perimeter was quickly established, and officers believed Mercer was hiding in the center median on the freeway near the Seward Ave. offramp.

With the assistance of the California Highway Patrol, the freeway's northbound lanes were slowed as officers searched the center median on foot. With help from a VPD K9, Mercer was located hiding in the bushes in the freeway's median. He was taken into custody without further incident.

Mercer was arrested for obstructing and delaying officers, possessing a controlled substance, and violating his post-release offender status/probation terms.

*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.*

**VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT • 1425 DOWELL DR. • VENTURA, CA 93003 • 805-339-4400**  
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