

Prowling and Vehicle Tampering

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09/16/2015

Incident: Prowling and Vehicle Tampering

Location: 5400 Block of Ralston St. Ventura, CA

Date/Time Occurred: 09/16/15 @ 2:52am

Officer(s) Involved: Patrol Officers

Suspect(s): Diego Santos 19 yrs. Ventura Resident

Report #: 15-12621

Narrative:

On 09/16/15 at about 2:52 a.m., the Ventura Police Command Center received a phone call from an alert resident in the 5400 Block of Ralston Street stating that a subject was trying door handles to vehicles in the carport area of the Ralston Courtyards Apartment Complex. Within a couple of minutes, a Ventura Police Patrol Sergeant arrived on scene and observed the suspect looking into vehicles and attempting to enter them. While the Sergeant was watching the suspect, the suspect set off a car alarm in the carport area. After hearing the alarm, the Sergeant identified himself and the suspect fled on foot. The Sergeant gave chase and caught the suspect several seconds later with the assistance of other arriving officers.

Due to the early hour, it is unknown at this time how many vehicles may have been entered by the suspect or how many items were stolen. The suspect was in possession of several items that may possibly have been stolen from vehicles in the area.

The suspect, Santos, was just arrested on 07/26/15 for vehicle tampering, resisting arrest, prowling, and possession of stolen property after being found in the same area checking door handles on vehicles. On that date, Santos ran from officers and was caught with stolen property in his possession. Santos is currently on probation for vehicle tampering and possession of stolen property.

If any person realizes that their vehicle has been entered or broken into, they are encouraged to call the Ventura Police Department at 805 650-8010.

The Ventura Police Department would also like to encourage everybody to lock their vehicles and avoid leaving anything of value in them. Nearly half of all thefts from vehicles in the City of Ventura occur from unlocked vehicles.