

ATM Theft & Identity Theft Arrest

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09/04/2015

Incident: ATM Theft & Identity Theft Arrest

Location: 500 Block Lantana St Camarillo

Date/Time Occurred: 9/3/15 at 2:30pm

Officer(s) Involved: VPD Street Crimes Detectives, VPD Gang Detectives

Victim(s): Several Bank of America ATM customers

Suspect(s): Eric Arteaga, 24 years, Camarillo resident

Report #: 15-11983

Narrative:

During the month of April 2015 detectives with the Ventura Police Department Street Crimes Unit began an investigation into several reported thefts from Bank of America ATM's at two separate locations in Ventura.

The victims had reported that a suspicious male had been loitering nearby as they withdrew funds from an ATM. A short time later the victims discovered that unauthorized withdrawals in the amount of \$400.00 had been made from their accounts.

In cooperation with Bank of America security detectives obtained video surveillance footage from the ATM's that showed the suspect making the unauthorized withdrawals immediately after the victims had walked away from the ATM. The loss to bank customers was estimated at well over \$3,500.00.

These ATM thefts began in February and continued sporadically for the next several months. In July still images of the suspect were posted of the department's Facebook site and within a few days detectives were following up on leads generated from the posting.

In August detectives identified Eric Arteaga as the suspect in these crimes. A search warrant for Arteaga and his residence in Camarillo was obtained and on September 3rd detectives served the warrant and arrested him without incident.

Physical evidence linking Arteaga to the ATM thefts in Ventura was located during the search of his residence and vehicle. He was also found to be in possession of narcotic paraphernalia at the time of his arrest.

Arteaga was later transported and booked at the Ventura County Main Jail on multiple felony counts of 530.5 PC - Identity Theft.

This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this crime or believes that they may also be a victim is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at 339-4325, or make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

The Ventura Police Department would like to remind the community to remain aware of their surrounding when using any ATM and to report any suspicious person loitering in the area.