

Butane Honey Oil (BHO) Conversion Lab Explosion and Fire

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04/23/2015

Incident: Butane Honey Oil (BHO) conversion lab explosion and fire

Contact: Watch Commander, 805.339.4416

Location: 6600 Telephone Road, Ventura

Date/Time Occurred: April 18, 2015 at 5:38 AM

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura Police Officers, Ventura Police Detectives, Ventura Combined Agency Task Force (VCAT) Investigators, Ventura City Fire Department, Children and Family Services

Victim(s): Numerous

Suspect(s): Lance Hayball, 51 years old, Ventura Resident

Report #: 15-05251

Narrative:

April 18, 2015 at 5:38 AM, Ventura Police Officers and Ventura City Fire personnel responded to a reported explosion and structure fire to an apartment in the 6600 block of Telephone Road. Information was obtained from witnesses that an unknown male subject quickly departed the apartment after the explosion was heard. The investigation revealed that the explosion and fire was a result of a drug conversion lab, specifically a marijuana butane honey oil (BHO) lab.

Ventura Police Detectives and investigators with the Ventura Combined Agency Task Force (VCAT) were called to the scene to complete the investigation. A search warrant was obtained and the investigation included processing the suspected drug lab, recovering evidence, and speaking with witnesses in the area, and the family who lived in the apartment where the incident took place. Investigators specifically trained to investigate drug cases affecting children were also assisted with the investigation. The investigation revealed the subject that fled the location immediately after the incident was identified as Lance Hayball. Hayball was determined to be a friend of the family living at the apartment.

On Wednesday, April 22, 2015, Ventura Police Detectives learned that since the incident, Hayball had been staying nearby at another friend's house in Ventura. Hayball was contacted and found to have suffered extensive second and third degree burns to his face, head, and extremities. Hayball was transported to the hospital for treatment of the injuries he sustained as a result of the explosion. He is currently at a hospital in Los Angeles receiving treatment for his injuries. Arrest warrants will be sought for Hayball once his condition improves and can be booked into the Ventura County Jail.