02/01/2015

**Incident:** Assault with a Deadly Weapon

**Contact:** Watch Commander, 805-339-4416

**Location:** 400 Harbor Blvd (Promenade)

**Date/Time Occurred:** 02/01/2015 @ 1950 hours

**Officer(s) Involved:** Ventura PD Patrol and Detectives, Ventura City Fire

**Victim:** John Stephen Wood, 46 years, Ventura Vagrant

**Suspect(s):** 5, Hispanic Male Juveniles, 15-17 yrs old

**Report #:** 15-01516

**Narrative:**

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call that several subjects near the Harbor Parking Structure hit Wood and he was bleeding from his head.

Officers arrived on scene and found Wood lying on the promenade with a head injury and stab wounds to his back. During the investigation, Officers learned that Wood was on the third level of the parking structure when one of the suspects asked for a lighter. After the victim let the suspects use his lighter and without provocation another suspect hit Wood in the head with a bat. While Wood was trying to flee from the suspects and running down the stairs of the structure, the suspects ran after Wood and stabbed him 6 times in his back and buttocks area. Once Wood reached the promenade the suspects fled through the structure.

Wood was treated at the scene by Ventura City Fire and was later transported to VCMC where he underwent surgery for his injuries. Wood was then admitted to the hospital. At the time of this Press release Wood was expected to survive his injuries.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone who witnessed this crime or with information related to this incident is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at (805) 339-4416.