04/16/2014

**Incident:** Press release: Assault with a Deadly Weapon

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

**Location:** 200 Block of E. Thompson Blvd.

**Date/Time Occurred:** April 16, 2014, 8:26 a.m.

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

**Victim(s):**
- Victim #1 Jennifer Bolton, 39 yrs, Vagrant
- Victim #2 Jerry Hooper, 42 yrs, Vagrant

**Suspect(s):** White male in his 40's

**Report #:** 14-4687

**Narrative:**

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from victim #1, Bolton, reporting that she and victim #2, Hooper, had just been burned by the suspect who threw “fire” on them. The suspect fled prior to police arriving on scene and was last seen fleeing the area on a bicycle towards the fairgrounds.

During the investigation, officers learned that both of the victims were inside of a tent in an encampment along the 101 freeway, when the suspect threw hot coals from a nearby campfire onto the tent. The coals burned through the tent and landed on the victims. Both of the victims sustained moderate burns to their back and arms. After being treated by Ventura City Fire personnel at the scene, they were transported to VCMC for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

Officers checked the area and were not able to locate the suspect.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this incident is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at 339-4441.