



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: December 3, 2015

Residential Burglary Suspects Arrested

On Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 9:36 AM a resident of Heatherlark Circle heard a loud noise in her backyard and was startled to find a young Hispanic male “wearing a gray ‘hoodie’ jacket” prowling around behind her home. When he saw her he immediately vaulted back over the fence and fled. Officers responded quickly but were unable to locate anyone matching the description. The woman likely interrupted an attempted burglary and, as such, nothing was disturbed or taken.

About an hour later an alert homeowner on South Valley Trails, which is roughly half a mile away from Heatherlark Circle, observed a black Ford Mustang convertible unknown to her neighborhood speed onto Haleakala Road and park alongside a neighbor’s home. Three young Hispanic males exited the car and two of them entered the rear yard of a neighboring home while the driver remained standing by his car. The witness homeowner’s husband called 9-1-1 and Pleasanton Police officers quickly arrived on scene to make contact with the driver and establish a perimeter around the home. A subsequent search of the house confirmed it had been broken into via a rear window but the two accomplices the woman had seen were no longer inside. She described the two outstanding men as wearing gray hoodies, which officers immediately recognized to be consistent with the description previously given for the suspect seen by the Heatherlark Circle resident.

Within five to ten minutes an undercover officer driving along Hopyard Road near Valley Avenue spotted two young Hispanic males wearing gray hoodie jackets walking from the Arroyo trail across to the shopping area near Bill’s Cafe restaurant. He continued to watch them until officers could arrive to make contact. During this time, one of them attempted to hide an article of jewelry under a car. While

initially uncooperative and in denial of their involvement, they were nonetheless positively linked to the the break-in on Haleakala Road. Subsequent questioning during the investigation revealed that one of the suspects, a 17-year-old juvenile out of San Jose, was also the individual seen by the homeowner on Heatherlark Circle. Equally important, a vehicle search of the Mustang parked on Haleakala Road yielded several items of property taken from an unreported burglary that also occurred at a neighboring home on Heatherlark Circle.

All three suspects were arrested on felony charges of burglary and conspiracy. The juvenile was also charged with prowling and the driver of the Mustang, 18-year-old Christian Castro-Betancourt of San Jose, was charged with possession of stolen property. The third suspect was identified as 18-year-old San Jose resident Juan Garcia-Rincon. Both adults were booked into Santa Rita Jail and the juvenile was released from the police station to the custody of his mother with a Notice to Appear.

The apprehension of these suspects would not have been possible without responsible homeowners' and neighbors' immediate calls to the Police Department. We continue to remind residents that a safe community is *everybody's* business, and that by working in partnership with the Police Department we can become *better together*. Anyone who may have witnessed these incidents, or who may have additional information to provide on possible associated burglaries, is asked to call the Pleasanton Police Department at 925-931-5100.