



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

Pacifica Police Department

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KIRK STRATTON
Interim Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

August 1, 2022

Catalytic Converter Theft Suspects Arrested

Pacifica, CA- On July 31, 2022 at approximately 12:14 AM, a Pacifica Police Officer was on patrol in the area of State Route 1 (SR-1) and Reina Del Mar Avenue when he observed a silver colored Nissan Juke traveling south on SR-1. The Officer observed several vehicle code violations and attempted to conduct a traffic enforcement stop on the vehicle. The vehicle failed to stop for the Officer and a short pursuit was initiated.

The fleeing vehicle was pursued to the 1100 block of Barcelona Drive where the vehicle stopped and the driver fled on foot into the adjacent wooded area. The vehicle was occupied by two additional subjects who remained on scene and were safely taken into custody.

With the assistance of Officers from the Colma Police Department and the San Bruno Police Department, a perimeter was established in the surrounding neighborhood to search for the driver of the vehicle. Despite the exhaustive search, the outstanding suspect was not located. He is described as a white or Hispanic male in his 30s, with dark hair, last seen wearing a dark color shirt or sweatshirt and dark color pants.

A search of the vehicle yielded numerous power tools that were consistent with the tools and instruments commonly used in vehicle burglaries and catalytic converter thefts. The search of the vehicle also yielded several catalytic converter accessories.

The two passengers who were taken into custody were later identified as 35 year old JOSE MORALES and 41 year old SANTIAGO VALDOVINOS, both residents of Oakland, CA. Both subjects were placed under arrest for 466 PC [Possession of Burglary Tools] and later booked at the San Mateo County jail.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation should contact the Pacifica Police Department at 650-738-7314, or may anonymously provide information by calling the silent witness tip line at (650) 359-4444.

Refer to PPD Case 22-2065.

Kirk Stratton
Interim Chief of Police

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