



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kevin Vogel, Chief of Police

NEW YEAR'S EVE STATISTICS AND KEY CASES

Approximately 9,000 people came to downtown Santa Cruz on New Year's Eve for what has become the second largest informal gathering in the city. The Santa Cruz Police Department worked proactively throughout the evening to maintain a safe environment. The following provides an overview of the night's statistics (downtown only):

15 Total Arrests

24 Municipal Code Violations

Overwhelmingly, the arrests and municipal code violations were for alcohol-related offenses. In addition, multiple DUI arrests were made in the city during the evening.

At approximately 6:00 pm, a Santa Cruz Police Department reserve officer and lieutenant attempted to stop a drunk male from leaving in his vehicle in the 500 block of Front Street. The male, later identified as Keith Sherwood, was observed stumbling and showing significant signs of intoxication while walking to his vehicle. Mr. Sherwood refused commands from officers to not enter and start his vehicle. Mr. Sherwood started his vehicle and veered it toward the reserve officer striking him in the hand and lower arm. He was taken to a local hospital and later released with injuries to his hand and arm. The two officers broadcast a description of the car and the Santa Cruz Police Department K9 officer witnessed the vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed on Ocean near Barson. The officer went to locate Mr. Sherwood and found the car in the 400 block of Barson Street. Mr. Sherwood was walking away from the vehicle at the point the K9 officer arrived. While Mr. Sherwood initially refused commands from the K9 officer he eventually complied and was taken into custody for felony DUI, assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer and two counts of resisting arrest/fleeing.

This morning, just before 6 a.m., Santa Cruz Police Department officers responded to a welfare check at the CVS located at 600 Front St. Officers received information that there was a man down on the steps leading to the parking lot of the business. Upon arrival, officers were flagged down and pointed to a subject who was standing at the corner of Front St and Soquel Ave. Officers were told that the subject was covered in blood and he appeared to have been stabbed. Officers spoke to the 46 year-old male (transient) who was showing objective signs of intoxication. He had a large amount of blood throughout his clothes and said he had been stabbed in the palm of his right hand. He also had a large amount of swelling to the left side of his face. The victim described the suspect as a White Male, 30-40 years old, 5'10 and approximately 140 lbs. He said he was stabbed in the hand but that he also slipped and fell – which caused the facial injury. The victim stated he didn't know where the stabbing occurred. An area check was done and officers found the likely incident location on the West Levee across from CVS. The victim was treated by Santa Cruz City Fire and transported by AMR to Dominican Hospital. Anyone with additional information is encouraged to call Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations at (831) 420-5820 or leave a tip via our website:

www.santacruzpolice.com.