



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: March 1, 2012 – 3:35 PM

LOCATION: 900 Block of Ocean St.

TOPIC: Counterfeit Money and Narcotics ARREST

CASE NUMBER: 12S-01807

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

- Name:** Lea Cagel
DOB: 41 years-old
Transient

Arrested: Yes No
Charges: 476, 182, 14601, 1203.2, 11379(A)
 - Name:** Joseph Taylor
DOB: 32 years-old
San Jose Resident

Arrested: Yes No
Charges: 476, 182, 148, 1203.2, 11379(A), 11357(A)
-

INFORMATION:

On March 1, 2012 at approximately 7:50 pm. Santa Cruz Police Department officers responded to a restaurant in the 900 block of Ocean Street for a report of a male and female subject attempting to pass a fake \$100 bill. According to the employee, Lea Cagle and Joseph Taylor attempted to pass a counterfeit \$100 bill after ordering some food. The employee recognized the \$100 as being counterfeit and denied to cash the bill for them. They had originally used a good \$100 bill in front of the fake one in attempt to get change for \$200. Ms. Cagel and Mr. Taylor left in a green Volvo after being denied the exchange.

Santa Cruz Police Department Officer Brian Hatcher was on patrol in the area when he saw a vehicle matching the description heading onto Highway 17 from Ocean Street. Officer Hatcher stopped them on Highway 17 north of Highway 1. As Officer Hatcher began to speak to Ms. Cagel (the driver) and Mr. Taylor, Mr. Taylor attempted to flee the car stop on foot. Sergeant Dan Flippo arrived just as Mr. Taylor fled and chased after him on foot up a hill back towards south bound Highway 1. Sgt. Flippo was able to catch up to Mr. Taylor and take him into custody.

Ms. Cagel and Mr. Taylor were found to be in possession of methamphetamine, several hundred dollars in cash, scales, jewelry, a gold bullion piece, and several phones. All of these items were booked as evidence. Ms. Cagel refused to provide a statement regarding the counterfeit \$100 and claimed she was just giving Mr. Taylor a ride to San Jose. She was found to be driving on a suspended license.

Anyone with additional information is asked to contact Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations at (831) 420-5820 or leave an anonymous tip at www.santacruzpolice.com or via the department's mobile app.