



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: January 18, 2013 9:10 AM

LOCATION: 900 Block of Laurel Street

TOPIC: Drive-by Shooting Arrest

CASE NUMBER: 13S-00566

INFORMATION:

On January 18, 2013 at approximately 9:10 AM, a drive-by shooting occurred in the 900 block of Laurel Street in the city of Santa Cruz. Witnesses reported a verbal confrontation between two males on the sidewalk and the driver of a black Volkswagon Jetta. A shot was fired from the Volkswagon Jetta by the driver. The bullet penetrated the fence of a home in the 900 block of Laurel Street. No one was injured in the shooting.

The two male adult victims fled the scene but were later found by responding officers. The 2 male victims were found hiding in a nearby apartment and were uncooperative with officers during the investigation.

Within 2 minutes of the radio call being dispatched, the suspect's vehicle was spotted by Officer Steve Pendleton just a few blocks away. Officer Pendleton is the department's School Resource Officer assigned to city schools. He was working in the area of Santa Cruz High School at the time of the call. Officer Pendleton followed the car to the 100 block of Center where he and other officers initiated a high-risk car stop away from the school.

The driver of the Jetta was arrested and booked into Santa Cruz County jail. He has been identified as:

Jonah Namaau, 20 years old
Santa Cruz resident

Mr. Namaau was booked into Santa Cruz County Jail for a number of felony violations including:

626.9(d) PC – Discharge a Firearm in a School Zone
626.9(b) PC – Possess a Firearm in a School Zone
26100(d) PC – Discharge a Firearm from a Vehicle
25850(a) PC – Possess a Loaded Firearm in a Vehicle

The suspect's weapon was recovered from the vehicle along with an expended bullet casing. The weapon is a Glock model 17 handgun. The Jetta was impounded for evidence processing.

The motive for the shooting is unclear and investigators are still trying to gain the cooperation of the victims.

Detectives are processing the crime scene to recover the bullet and collect other evidence.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations Unit at (831) 420-5820. Witnesses may also leave an anonymous tip on our tip line listed below, or our iPhone and Droid mobile apps.

For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark

Phone: (831) 420-5815

To Leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995 or use our mobile iPhone and Android App

