



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: February 22, 2013

LOCATION: 500 block Poplar Ave

TOPIC: Arrest Warrant Home Invasion Robbery

CASE NUMBER: 13S-01560

INFORMATION:

The Santa Cruz Police Department has obtained an arrest warrant for the second suspect in a home invasion robbery that occurred on February 20, 2013 in the 500 block of Poplar Ave. The suspect has been identified as:

Esteban Lopez – 22 Years Old
Hispanic Male Adult
5 feet 7 inches - 130 lbs
Santa Cruz Resident

Mr. Lopez fled the scene of the crime and was not located on the night of this incident. In addition to other follow up work on this case, detectives have been attempting to track down Mr. Lopez over the past 2 days. His whereabouts are currently not known. He has not been seen at his home, work, or frequented locations.

The bail amount on the warrant is \$250,000, with charges including (1) Robbery, (2) False Imprisonment, (3) Burglary, and (4) Assault with a Deadly Weapon. Mr. Lopez is a confirmed "Beach Flats Sureno" gang member with an extensive history of law enforcement contact, including weapons and narcotics violations.

Anyone with information about Mr. Lopez's whereabouts is encouraged to call 9-1-1.

BACKGROUND

On February 20, 2013 at approximately 4:25 AM, Santa Cruz Police received a 9-1-1 call of a home invasion robbery occurring at a residence in the 500 block of Poplar Ave. Officers arrived to find the residents restraining one of the two suspects on the front lawn of the home.

Officers learned that the adult residents were awakened by both suspects who had entered the home and eventually the bedroom of the adult occupants. The suspects had their faces covered and were demanding cash. One suspect was armed with a screwdriver, while the other was armed with a decorative sword belonging to the victims. The sword was obtained from inside the home. The suspects continued to demand cash, and attempted to bind the adult occupants with duct tape. The duct tape failed and the suspects attempted to use an electrical cord.

The suspects learned there were children inside the home, and made a threat to the adults regarding the welfare of the children. The adults broke free of their bindings and began to fight with the suspects. The adult occupants engaged in a prolonged fight with the suspects while one of the children inside the home eventually was able to call 9-1-1. In the course of the fight, Mr. Lopez fled the home. Suspect Cuactemoc Xilonzochilt-Zamora was eventually pinned to the ground in the front yard of the residence until police arrived.

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

