



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT

250 Cypress Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5437

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Chief of Police

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PRESS RELEASE

Releasing Officer: Officer Thomas N. O'Neal
Report Number: FG1600050
Date / Time Incident: January 10, 2016 / 2:44 p.m.
Location of Incident: South Coastal Trail, Fort Bragg
Crime or Incident: 69 PC – Assault on a Peace Officer, 647(f) PC –
Public Intoxication
Victim(s): Fort Bragg Police Department Police Officers
Suspect: Patrick A. Heppe - 28 years old

CIRCUMSTANCES:

On January 10, 2016 Officers of the Fort Bragg Police Department were dispatched to the report of two extremely intoxicated males on the South Coastal Trail. Based on the reporting party's description of the suspects, Officers contacted Patrick Heppe and Travis Cavallaro, both from Willits. Both suspects were sitting on a bench within the park, consuming an open bottle of hard alcohol. During the contact with Officers, Heppe displayed obvious symptoms of being heavily intoxicated, including not being able to stand on his own. Based on their observations, officers attempted to conduct an assessment of Heppe's ability to care for himself. During the assessment, Heppe became aggressive with officers and was placed under arrest for public intoxication. Cavallaro was released at the scene with a warning regarding the open container.

While attempting to place Heppe in a patrol vehicle so that he could be transported to jail, Heppe became violent, including kicking Officers and attempting to pull away from them. Heppe left abrasions and injuries on two separate officers during his initial violent outburst.

Due to Heppe's intoxicated state and violent actions, officers were forced to secure Heppe in a WRAP restraint device. This device is designed to ensure that the prisoner is unable to injure officers or himself during the extended drive to the Mendocino County Adult Jail.

Once Heppe was secured, he was transported to the Mendocino County Adult Jail without incident. Heppe is charged with Assault on a Peace Officer and Public Intoxication.

The Fort Bragg Police Department would like to encourage any individuals who may have witnessed the above incident to contact Officer O'Neal at 961-2800 in order to be interviewed for any information regarding this incident.

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