



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Releasing Officer: Sergeant Thomas O'Neal
Date/Time of Incident: January 12, 2019 / 10:50 a.m.
Location of Incident: Chevron Gas Station (810 S. Main Street)
Crime or Incident: Assist United States Postal Service - Stolen Vehicle
Victim(s): United States Postal Service (USPS)
Suspects: Aerius Price (23 years old of San Francisco)

CIRCUMSTANCES:

On January 12, 2019, at approximately 10:50 a.m., Officers of the Fort Bragg Police Department were dispatched to the area of E. Laurel Street and N. Main Street for the report of a stolen USPS van being sighted in the area. While responding to the area, Officers located the stolen van now driving southbound in the 600 Block of S. Main Street. After confirming that the van was stolen, Officers initiated a felony traffic stop on the van in the parking lot of the Chevron Gas Station. The driver of the van, later identified as Aerius Price, immediately exited the van once it stopped and refused to comply with the Officers' verbal commands despite Officers having him at gunpoint.

After several repeated commands, Price eventually lowered himself to the ground and he was being held at gunpoint when a Department of Fish and Wildlife Warden arrived at the scene to assist. Officers moved forward and handcuffed Price. During the handcuffing process, Price violently jerked his arm away from an Officer and he had to be forced into handcuffs.

Price was detained at the scene for approximately two hours while Officers waited on a United States Postal Inspector to arrive from Ukiah. Once the Postal Inspector was on scene, both Price and the stolen van were surrendered to their custody. Price was later extradited back to San Francisco to face both Federal and State criminal charges.

Questions regarding this press release may be forwarded to Sergeant O'Neal at (707) 961-2800 ext. 120 or to toneal@fortbragg.com.

END