



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5437

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Chief of Police

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PRESS RELEASE

Releasing Officer: Sergeant Thomas O'Neal
Date/Time of Incident: February 28, 2019 / 8:47 a.m.
Location of Incident: The Outdoor Store (247 N. Main Street)
Crime or Incident: 459 PC (Burglary)
Victim(s): The Outdoor Store
Suspects: Jeremiah Eckel (40 years old of Fort Bragg)

CIRCUMSTANCES:

On February 28, 2019, at approximately 8:47 a.m., Officers of the Fort Bragg Police Department were dispatched to a burglary in progress at The Outdoor Store. Officers responded Code Three (Lights and Siren), and arrived on scene within one minute. When Officers arrived, they observed Jeremiah Eckel, exiting the store window carrying merchandise. Eckel was placed under arrest without incident and transported to the Mendocino Coast District Hospital Emergency Room for a medical clearance due to lacerations he received while forcing entry into the store.

An investigation revealed that Eckel forced entry into the store using a large rock to break the store's window. Eckel then removed several items through the broken window and damaged property inside of the store during the incident. Eckel was transported to the Mendocino County Jail once he was medically cleared by the hospital.

While a motive for the burglary is still being investigated, Eckel displayed suspected symptoms of mental health illness and being under the influence of a controlled substance during the arrest process.

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

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