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## \*\*MEDIA RELEASE\*\*

## Traffic Stop Leads to Seizure of Loaded Firearm 07/12/2024

On July 12, 2024 at approximately 9:47 A/M, a Fort Bragg police officer conducted a traffic enforcement stop on a vehicle for multiple violations of the California Vehicle Code in the 200 block of Maple Street.

During the traffic stop, it was learned the driver, a 17 year-old male juvenile, resident of Fort Bragg, was operating a motor vehicle while unlicensed. From prior history, it was known the male juvenile had been cited for the same offense in the past, and was taken into custody without incident for this current violation.

An inventory search of the vehicle was completed which yielded in the discovery of a club (mini-bat) and a loaded, unregistered, high capacity handgun both concealed under the front seat. The female passenger, identified a, Andrea Romero-Serrano, 19, resident of Fort Bragg, was also taken into custody post investigation. The handgun located upon further inspection, was determined to have a threaded barrel allowing for a suppressor to be attached, therefore classifying the handgun as an "assault weapon".

The male juvenile was transported to Mendocino Juvenile Hall and Romero-Serrano was booked into the Mendocino County Jail. Both individuals were charged with the following: 22210 PC – Possess Concealed Club, 25850(a) PC – Carry Loaded Firearm in Public, 25850(c)(6) PC – Loaded Unregistered Firearm, 25400(a)(1) PC – Carry Concealed Weapon on Person or Vehicle, 30515(4)(A) PC – Possession of an Assault Weapon and 182(a)(1) PC – Conspiracy: Commit Crime. All felonies. The juvenile was also booked for 12500a VC – Driving While Unlicensed, a misdemeanor.

Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact Officer Frank of the Fort Bragg Police Department at (707)961-2800 ext 223.



This information is being released by Sergeant Welter. All media inquiries should contact him at <a href="mailto:awelter@fortbragg.com">awelter@fortbragg.com</a>.