



PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to Cal Govt. Code sect 6254(f)
Gilroy Police Department
Press Information Office
7301 Hanna St. Gilroy, CA 95020
Ph (408) 846-0350 Fax: (408) 846-0339

TYPE OF CRIME:

Parole, Probation and Registration Compliance Checks of Sex Offenders

CASE NUMBER:

LOCATION: Gilroy and surrounding area

DATE: 3/29/2011

TIME:

VICTIM:

SUSPECT #1: Christopher James Soto

DOB: 12/16/1979

ADDRESS: Transient

BOOKING CHARGES: 3056 PC - Violation of Parole Conditions

RACE:

AGE:

SEX:

HEIGHT:

WEIGHT:

HAIR:

EYES:

Mr. Soto is a registered sex offender and was arrested at 5530 Monterey

ADDITIONAL INFO: Rd at approximately 5:06 pm for violating terms of his parole.

SUSPECT #2: Erik Bech Laursen

DOB: 03/17/1972

ADDRESS: 285 Perch Way Aptos, CA.

BOOKING CHARGES: 3056 PC - Violation of Parole Conditions

RACE:

AGE:

SEX:

HEIGHT:

WEIGHT:

HAIR:

EYES:

Arrested at 12400 Columbet Dr. - Mr. Laursen is NOT a registered sex offender, but was a parolee at large contacted as a result of a

ADDITIONAL INFO: compliance check with a parolee who is a registered sex offender.

Details

During the afternoon and evening of March 29, 2011, a task force conducted numerous compliance checks of registered sex offenders in the City of Gilroy and the surrounding unincorporated area of Santa Clara County. Members of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department Sexual Assault and Felony Enforcement (S.A.F.E.) Team, parole agents from the California Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), and Gilroy Police Department Detectives conducted compliance checks of subjects on parole or probation for sexual offenses. The group also conducted address compliance checks of registered sexual offenders who are not on probation or parole. The teams contacted 27 individuals total, 16 of which were parole or probation compliance checks. Two subjects were arrested for violation of parole terms, and warrant requests are being prepared for at least two others.

According to the California Department of Justice, there are currently 142 registered sex offenders living in the 95020 area code, the majority of these reside within the city limits of Gilroy. The SAFE Task Force, Gilroy Police Department, and CDCR – Parole are all committed to making the community safe from sexual predators. Verifying that registrants reside at their registered address and ensuring persons on parole or probation obey the terms of their early release from incarceration is one of the methods used to maintain the public's safety.

The California Megan's Law website is a good resource for citizens interested in more information about registered sex offenders in their local area. The site may be found at www.meganslaw.ca.gov. Persons with information about sex offenders not in compliance with registration, parole, or probation requirements should contact the Gilroy Police Dept. at 408-846-0350, or the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Dept. at 408-683-2681. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may call the We Tip line listed below. Media inquiries Sgt. Wes Stanford 408-846-0331
1st Photo is Soto, 2nd is Laursen

For any media inquiries please call (408) 846-0347. Parties wishing to remain anonymous may call WeTip at 1-800-782-7463 (1-800-78-Crime).

End of Media Advisory

By: Wes Stanford

Approved By: wes

Date: 3/30/2011



