



Riverside County Regional Gang Task Force

San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force Region II

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: January 8, 2010

LOCATION: Replier Park, Banning, CA

SUBJECT: Sean Rayfield
Robert Hood
Christopher Lavoie
Daniel Rocha
Joseph Lavoie

CONTACT: Special Agent, Mohammed Najjar (951) 235-9634

On Wednesday, January 6, 2010, at approximately 1126 hours, Banning Police Department personnel responded to Replier Park, located at the intersection 4th Street and George Street, Banning, reference several Hispanic male subjects assaulting two victims.

The reporting party reported the suspects were fleeing the area in a white Jeep Cherokee, unknown license plate. Team members of the San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force, located the vehicle matching the description at the intersection of Sunset Avenue and Wilson Street, Banning. Six (6) subjects; later identified as Sonia Cuevas, Sean Rayfield, Robert Hood, Christopher Lavoie, Daniel Rocha and Joseph Lavoie occupied the vehicle. All six subjects were detained pending further investigation.

During the investigation, San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force team members learned that one victim suffered several bumps and abrasions to his face and back of his head. The victim was bleeding from his ear and complained of pain to his left eye with blurred vision. In addition, the victim and other witnesses identified the five male subjects as the aggressors. San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force members identified the subjects as known Eastside Banning Sapos gang members. At the conclusion of the initial investigation, Sean Rayfield, Robert Hood, Christopher Lavoie,

Daniel Rocha and Joseph Lavoie were arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and were booked into Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility.

On Friday, January 8, 2010, members of the San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force served several search warrants at the suspect's residences in the city of Banning and Cathedral City. As the result of the search warrants, numerous items were seized in support of the gang affiliation charges.

The San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force is one of eight teams composing the Riverside County Regional Gang Task Force, which is a collaborative effort of 25 law enforcement agencies with the goal of combating criminal street gangs. The San Gorgonio Special Operations Gang Task Force team is staffed with members of the California Department of Justice, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, California Department of Corrections Parole, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside County Probation Office, Banning Police Department and Beaumont Police Department.