



Banning Police Department

321 W. Ramsey Street, Banning, CA 92220 (951) 922-3170

Press Release

Date: February 11, 2010

Case #10-549

Location: Intersection of Williams Street x 2nd Street, Banning

Incident: Felony Vehicle Pursuit

On Thursday, February 11, 2010, about 0720 hours, a Banning Police Officer attempted to stop a 2006 Cadillac Escalade that was displaying false registration tabs. The vehicle did not yield and continued driving approximately 40 mph until it reached the 100 block of W. Wilson Street. Based on the primary officer's observation of the suspect's erratic driving, it was suspected the driver of the Cadillac was intoxicated. As the suspect vehicle reached the 200 block of W. Wilson Street, the suspect increased his speed to approximately 60 mph and the incident was upgraded to a vehicle pursuit.

The suspect vehicle proceeded through Banning and onto the Morongo Indian Reservation reaching speeds of around 90 mph. Shortly after entering the reservation, officers lost sight of the suspect's vehicle. The pursuit was terminated at that point and officers began an area check for the vehicle.

The suspect vehicle was located at 46728 Morongo Road. A search of the property was conducted for the driver, identified as 26 year old Michael Allen Leonard. Leonard was found hiding in an outbuilding and taken into custody along with 34 year old Lori Ann Holmes, who had an outstanding felony warrant for California Penal Code 273(d) (a) Corporal Punishment or Injury of a Child.

After being transported to the Banning Police Department, Leonard was processed and booked into the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility for violating California Vehicle Code 2800.2(a), Evading a Peace Officer: Reckless Driving; California Vehicle Code 31, False Information to Peace Officer; California Vehicle Code 23152 (a), Driving Under Influence of Alcohol or Drugs; Health and Safety Code 11377(a), Unauthorized Possession of a Controlled Substance; Health and Safety Code 11364, Unauthorized Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Penal Code 3056, Parolee at Large. Holmes was also booked at the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility for the felony warrant.

Inquires: Banning Police Department, Watch Commander (951) 922-3170