

PRESSRELEASE

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Calvin D. Minor
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For Immediate Release:

Date: March 8, 2013

Prepared By/Contact Person: Sgt. Chris Simons

FRESNO COUNTY EOD AND METH TASK FORCE CALLED OUT

On March 8, 2013, at about 2:50 a.m., Officers from the Coalinga Police Department responded to a report of a possible in-progress home invasion robbery. The investigation led to the discovery of a mock explosive device and drug processing area.

Initially Coalinga Police Officers responded to a report of a disturbance at the Pleasant Valley Pines Apartments. Upon Officers arrival they were involved in a foot pursuit of a male subject that eluded officers.

Upon contacting the victim it was learned that the apartment's resident had a medical marijuana card and marijuana in the apartment. While checking for compliance, with a consensual search, Officers saw what appeared to be an explosive device within the apartment and members of the Fresno County Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit, with the assistance of the Clovis Bomb Squad, were called out.

The EOD personnel determined that the device was not an actual explosive device, but, while in the apartment, located honey oil, butane, and a jar with a hazardous material inside. Honey Oil is concentrated THC that is extracted from marijuana. The honey oil and the processing are both illegal.

Members of the Fresno Methamphetamine Task Force were then summoned to the location.

After further questioning of the suspect a search warrant was obtained a search conducted, resulting in the locating in the rest of the processing equipment, hashish and a large amount of marijuana. The equipment and the marijuana and its derivatives were seized and booked into evidence.

The apartment residents, 20-year-old, Ruben Ramos, Jr. and 20-year-old April Denise Duarte were both charged with Illegal Processing, Possession of Concentrated Cannabis and Possession of More than One Ounce of Marijuana, as well as Child Endangerment.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Ruben Ramos Jr.



April Duarte