



San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Armed Robbery - Spring Valley

Person Providing Information: Sgt. K. Murashige

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Date of Release: August 11, 2017

Time of Release: 2:30 a.m.

SYNOPSIS:

On August 10, 2017, at 8:52 p.m., deputies were dispatched to a call of an armed robbery to an illegal Marijuana Dispensary at the 3600 block of Bancroft Drive in Spring Valley. This incident was reported by a passerby. Upon arrival, deputies set up a perimeter to contain the scene. As expected, no one associated with the dispensary called law enforcement to report the incident. The reluctance by the staff to summon for help has created a dangerous environment, not only for dispensary staff members, but the public that patronize the facility. This reluctance delayed the ability of public safety members to conduct a safety sweep of the business to check for anyone needing medical attention and to start the investigation to apprehend the suspects.

Once the scene was safe, it was preliminarily determined that at least two black males were involved in a take-over style robbery as they forced their way into the dispensary. The security guard was disarmed and the employees of the dispensary were ordered to the ground. The suspects fled the store after taking Marijuana products. It was unknown if any cash was taken at the time of this release. The suspects were seen getting into an undisclosed type vehicle and leaving in an unknown direction. The suspects are still outstanding and believed to be armed and dangerous. The investigation is on-going.

In recent months, the Rancho San Diego Command has experienced a trend of violent take-over style robberies of Marijuana Dispensaries and in each case, armed guards were not a deterrent, the suspects were all armed, dispensary staff members failed to call for help even after people were physically assaulted, and in some cases the staff members refused to allow law enforcement to enter, causing a stand-off situation that stretched the department's resources in helping victims.