



PRESS RELEASE

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February 1, 2013

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Explosives Located in Residence

Riverside, CA – On Tuesday, January 29, 2013, the Riverside Police Department responded to the area of Oakhurst Place and Brynhurst Drive in response to the report of a subject with a gun, with possibly two shots being fired. The officers arrived on scene and located a subject standing in a front yard. Witnesses at the scene identified the subject as being the subject previously seen holding a weapon, and may have fired two shots from it. Officers safely coordinated the arrest of the suspect and conducted a safety sweep of the suspect's residence. When officers entered the residence, they were immediately met with a putrid smell. During a sweep of the residence, the officers located an elderly (82 years old) bedridden female in a rear bedroom. She was found to be lying in fetid conditions and she was obviously underweight and being neglected. Information regarding her living in squalor was passed on to our Domestic Violence Unit and detectives were dispatched to the scene to assist with the elder abuse portion of this investigation. The elderly female was transported to a local hospital for medical evaluation and treatment.

While on scene, officers observed a number of weapons including one fitted with a suspected suppressor. Officers observed what they believed to be suspected explosive devices. William Hunziker, 46, of Riverside was arrested and booked for possession of a silencer and the negligent discharge of a firearm.

Because of the firearms, ammunition and possible explosives observed at the location, the RPD Technical Services Unit responded and took command of the scene. Based on observations and statements, a search warrant was obtained. Weapons, ammunition, high explosives and other materials consistent with the manufacturing of explosives and explosive devices were located. Due to the complexity of the investigation and in an attempt to be as thorough as possible in providing for the safety of the community, it was determined the assistance from our partners at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Alcohol

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Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATFE) would be beneficial in the search, investigation and render safe portions of the operation.

Due to the extremely hazardous properties of the suspected explosives that were located, the majority of the material was rendered safe on scene bringing about the short term evacuation of several neighboring residences. The residence was rendered free of all explosive materials.

On the afternoon of Friday, February 1, representatives from the City Attorney's Office, Code Compliance and Animal Control responded to assist with neighborhood livability issues. A number of cats were safely removed from the residence and surrounding property and were transported to the shelter with additional efforts ongoing. The City Attorney's Office and Code Compliance initiated an investigation into additional livability concerns regarding the residence.

Additional investigation is ongoing.

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