



PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
Phone (951) 826-5147 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2008
Contact: Sgt. Marco Quesada, NPC West
Phone: (951) 353-7063

Carjack suspects arrested after Corona crash

Riverside, CA -- Officers from the Corona Police Department located a vehicle Wednesday around noon, stolen from Riverside during an armed carjacking on Sunday, October 5, 2008. Two carjacking suspects were arrested following a short pursuit with Corona Police, which ended in a crash that totaled the stolen car.

Corona Police discovered the stolen vehicle in the Howard Johnsons parking lot at 1695 Hamner Ave, in Norco. The vehicle was taken in a carjacking at Coonen Drive and Gramercy Place in western Riverside, on Sunday, October 5, 2008.

Officers observed a male and female get into the stolen vehicle and drive out of the parking lot. The vehicle fled from Corona PD during a traffic stop attempt, ending in a traffic collision. The driver, Gilbert Hernandez, and a female passenger were taken into custody. Officers located a handgun inside the vehicle.

Riverside Police were contacted and members of the multi-agency Parole and Corrections Team (PACT) Team responded to the Howard Johnsons to assist Corona PD with its investigation. PACT Team members located a second vehicle in the parking lot, which had also been reported stolen in Riverside. PACT located additional suspects inside.

Officers arrested Gilbert Hernandez, 28 of Norwalk, Adam Romero, 26, of Corona, and Desirae Flores, 23, of Corona, for various charges including carjacking and possessing stolen property, in connection with Riverside cases. The carjacking victim later identified Hernandez and Romero as the carjacking suspects. Romero and Flores were in possession of the second stolen vehicle.

Riverside Police Detectives continue their investigation. Anyone with additional information is asked to call Detective Jeff Jones or Officer Chris Williams at (951) 353-7961.

-- P08-144719 --

###

