



City of Ridgecrest

**POLICE**  
DEPARTMENT

**PRESS RELEASE**

City of Ridgecrest Police Department  
For Immediate Release

March 24, 2025

## **RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT MAKES SWIFT ARRESTS IN SHOOTING INVESTIGATION**

### **SUSPECTS ARRESTED:**

Miguel Angel Serrano, Jr- 21-year-old male from Ridgecrest  
Mekhi DeMarcis Nelson-Jimenez- 18-year-old male from Ridgecrest  
Two 17-year-old males from Ridgecrest

### **CHARGES:**

PC 664-187- Attempted Murder  
PC 246- Shoot at Inhabited Dwelling  
PC 26100(c)- Discharge Firearm at a Person  
PC 245(a)- Assault with a Deadly Weapon  
PC 25850(a)- Carry a Loaded Firearm in Public  
PC 182(a)- Conspiracy

**Ridgecrest, CA** – On March 18, 2025, at approximately 1:13 PM, Ridgecrest Police Department officers responded to a report of a shooting in the 300 block of South Downs Street. Officers quickly arrived on scene, secured the area, and located the injured victim. Once the scene was deemed safe, Kern County Fire and Liberty Ambulance personnel were cleared in to provide medical aid.

Through investigation, officers determined the incident began as a fight between two individuals but escalated into a four-against-one assault. After the physical altercation ended, the suspects fled to a waiting vehicle. Before leaving the scene, one of the vehicle's occupants fired a gun at the victim. Fortunately, the victim was not struck by the gunfire and sustained only non-life-threatening injuries, which were treated at the scene.

**ACCOUNTABILITY F.I.R.S.T.**

**FAIRNESS · INTEGRITY · RESPECT · SERVICE · TEAMWORK**

100 W. California Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555 Call: 760-499-5100 Fax: 760-499-1501

1 of 3



City of Ridgecrest

**POLICE**  
DEPARTMENT

# PRESS RELEASE

City of Ridgecrest Police Department  
For Immediate Release

March 24, 2025

## **RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT MAKES SWIFT ARRESTS IN SHOOTING INVESTIGATION - *Continued***

Officers obtained surveillance footage of the incident and identified a suspect vehicle—a late-model white SUV. Using the Flock Safety system, investigators located a matching vehicle that had been in the area at the time of the shooting. Additional witness statements and investigative leads allowed officers to identify the suspects involved.

By 2:54 PM, with the coordination of patrol officers, detectives, and department leadership, the suspect vehicle was located on West Ridgecrest Boulevard near Norma Street. A high-risk traffic stop was conducted, leading to the arrest of four suspects. A fifth occupant of the vehicle was determined not to be involved in the crime.

Further investigation led officers to execute a search warrant at a residence in the 800 block of West Ward Avenue. Evidence collected at the location confirmed the involvement of the arrested individuals in the violent assault. The two adult suspects were booked into the Kern County Jail, where they remain in custody. The two juvenile suspects were booked into juvenile hall.

“The swift and coordinated response of our officers, supported by our detectives, ensured these violent criminals were taken into custody in less than two hours,” said Chief Ysit. “The Ridgecrest Police Department remains committed to aggressively pursuing those who threaten the safety of our community.”

This remains an ongoing investigation. Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Ridgecrest Police Department at (760) 499-5100.

Prepared: by Detective Sergeant Bill Groves  
Mario Ysit, Chief of Police

**ACCOUNTABILITY F.I.R.S.T.**

**FAIRNESS · INTEGRITY · RESPECT · SERVICE · TEAMWORK**

100 W. California Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555 Call: 760-499-5100 Fax: 760-499-1501

2 of 3