



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

100 W. California Ave. • Ridgecrest, CA 93555 • 760.499.5100 • fax 760.371.1674

MICHAEL D. AVERY, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE and TIME OF INCIDENT: November 14th, 2007 1350 hours

TYPE OF INCIDENT: 23152(a)CVC -DUI/ 20002(a)CVC Hit and Run (4 cases.)

CASE #07-3834, 3873, 3874 & 3875

VICTIMS: City Of Ridgecrest, SSUSD, Two City of Ridgecrest Residents

LOCATION Of ARREST: 1300 W. Upjohn Ave.

SUSPECTS: TORRES, Richard Raymond 43 yoa-Palmdale resident

On 11/14 /2007 at about 1350 hours, the Ridgecrest Police Department received a call of a hit and run that occurred on W. Ridgecrest Blvd in the 200 blk. Before officers could respond, another call was received of a intoxicated subject at the Howards Mini Market on W. Upjohn Ave. Witnesses advised the suspect was "buying" beer. Sgt. OBERGFELL responded to the area, only to find the suspect was gone. Moments later, witnesses called back that the same suspect had crashed into the fence at Faller Elementary School.

Sgt. OBERGFELL and other Officers responded towards the location. As Sgt. OBERGFELL approached he found the suspect driving in his lane, the wrong way. After a short distance the suspect finally stopped for the pursuing patrol car, but after it stopped the suspect placed the car in reverse and struck the patrol vehicle. The suspect was removed from the car and taken into custody. He was identified as TORRES, and he was obviously intoxicated. He also admitted to taking several types of prescription medications. Witness identified TORRES as the suspect in the hit and run. It was also apparent from the damage to his car and pieces of victim vehicles which were stuck to TORRES' 1988 Honda.

Officer MARRONE took custody of the suspect, who was later treated at Ridgecrest Regional hospital. TORRES was then transported to Central Receiving Facility Bakersfield where he was booked on the Drunk Driving and Hit and Run charges. Officers ARMOGIDA and FRID located 4 total accident scenes in which this suspect was involved.

No civilians or Officers were injured in the incidents.

MICHAEL D. AVERY Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Sgt. R. OBERGFELL
Saturday, November 17, 2007 13:46