



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF EVENT: May 06, 2013

TYPE OF EVENT: Felon in Possession of Firearm

LOCATION: 700 blk. N. Fairview St. and 1545 N. Alford St.

CHARGES: PC 29800(a), H&S 11377(a), H&S 11364, PC 148, PC 3056

SUSPECT(S): Julian HARPER , BMA – 25 YOA

On 4/29/2013, Officers of the Ridgecrest initially went to the 700 blk. N. Fairview to conduct an investigation regarding unattended children, ages 3 and 4. Officers Ballestero and Bockhahn began to dig further into why there was no adult supervision for these children. After a short period of time, it was apparent the Officers were dealing with a "Meth. House". A search of the residence was conducted and a 9mm semi-automatic handgun was located. After talking to subjects at the residence, it was determined that the handgun belonged to Julian Harper, a prohibited firearm possessor.

On 5/06/2013, Officer Ballestero developed information that Harper could be found at a residence located at 1545 N. Alford St. Officers Ballestero, Detective Sloan and KCSO Deputy Sparks went to the Alford residence. A search for Harper was conducted and Harper was found hiding in one of the bedrooms. Also located at the residence was a small amount of suspected methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. After talking to State Parole, Officer Ballestero learned that Harper was absconding from parole and had an active "No Bail" warrant. The suspected dangerous drugs were in a common area within reach of the small children. The children were eventually removed from the residence by CPS.

Harper was placed under arrest for possessing the firearm, possession of the dangerous drugs/paraphernalia and the State Parole hold. Harper was taken to the Kern County Jail Ridgecrest where he was held with "No Bail".

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Sgt. Tony Brown