



VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT
Press Release
(707) 651-7147

December 31, 2009
Sgt Don Hendershot
VPD Case #09-17749

****Update – Officer Involved Shooting****

Dennis James Merrida is currently in stable condition and is in the custody of California Department of Corrections. He is in custody for a Violation of Parole warrant and will also be arrested by the Vallejo Police Department for obstructing and resisting an executive officer in performance of their duties and brandishing a weapon.

Further investigation determined the weapon Merrida pointed at the officer was a replica firearm. It was also revealed that Merrida was not involved in the original robbery call the officers were responding to.

The second individual arrested, Claude Allen, was subsequently released pending further investigation.

At this time there are no suspects in custody for the robbery case and Vallejo Police Detectives are continuing to investigate.



VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Press Release

(707) 651-7147

December 30, 2009

Lt Abel Tenorio

VPD Case #09-17749

On December 30, 2009 at 3:06 pm, officers were dispatch to a robbery in the 800 block of Sheridan. The suspects were described as two black male adults, one armed with a handgun.

Officers were conducting a search in the area, when they observed Dennis James Merrida, 37 yrs old, at the corner of Lemon and Sheridan. He matched the description of one of the robbers. As officers attempted to contact the Merrida, they observed that he was carrying a gun in his left hand.

One of the officers exited his unit, as Merrida attempted to flee on foot. Merrida suddenly turned toward the pursuing officer, raising the gun in the officer's direction. The officer responded to the threat by discharging his firearm at the Merrida.

Merrida suffered a single wound to his upper body. He was air-lifted to John Muir Hospital where he underwent surgery and is currently in stable condition. His injuries are considered non life-threatening.

A second subject was also detained as part of the investigation. Detectives are continuing to review the case to verify if either of these people were involved in the robbery.

Dennis Merrida is a Vallejo resident and considered a high-risk felon by the Department of Corrections. He is also wanted for parole violation from a prior robbery conviction.

Information can be provided to VPD at 800-488-9383 24 hours a day

The Solano Crime Stoppers™ tip line (644-STOP) is a anonymous tip line that offers cash rewards for phone tips that solve violent and/or serious crimes committed in the greater Vallejo area.