



City of
Los Banos
At the Crossroads of California

LOS BANOS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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February 10, 2008
Subject Assaulted and nearly robbed

On February 10, at approximately 6:49 P.M. officers responded to the 100 block of West I Street regarding a fight. Officers learned that a 38 year old male had been physically assaulted during which time one of the three suspects also attempted to take his wallet from his pants pocket. The victim was able to escape to a nearby residence and the suspects fled the area after a witness threatened to contact the police.

A short time later another person contacted the Department to report two suspicious males in the 200 block of G Street. The caller's description of the two was similar to that of the suspects from the assault and attempted robbery.

Officers caught up to the two and further investigation led to their arrest for Robbery and Conspiracy to commit Robbery. The two, identified as; 27-year old, Juan Carlos Hernandez and 20-year old Andrew Thomas Gonzalez, were identified by the victim as two of the suspects responsible for his assault and attempted robbery.

“Had it not been for the caller who reported the two acting suspiciously in their neighborhood we may not have caught these two as quickly, and one can only speculate what they were capable of had they remained free longer. It was as simple as a 30 second telephone call to police that help lead us to these two. The Department extends their thanks to the caller.”

Chris Gallagher, Chief of Police

The victim complained of pain to his jaw and the two suspects remain in custody in a Merced County Jail.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is strongly encouraged to contact the Los Banos Police Department at **209 827 7070**. To leave an anonymous crime tip call, **209 827 7070 X 288**.

If you have access to a computer and the internet you can also leave an anonymous tip, just go to the Police Departments web page at www.losbanos.org. At the bottom of the "Contact" page simply click on the "report graffiti and other crime" link.