



City of
Los Banos
At the Crossroads of California

LOS BANOS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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April 11, 2008

Youth subdued by Taser after resisting Officers

At approximately 2113 hours Officers responded to the movie theatre in the 200 block of North Mercey Springs after receiving several calls regarding a gathering crowd and a fight. As officers arrived three males were seen running away from the area of a responding officer. Seeing that, a second officer exited his car and approached the three to speak to them. The three saw the officer and ran back towards the crowd where the officer temporarily lost sight of the three. Two of the males were lost in the crowd, however, the third saw the officer again and began to run away. The officer gave chase, identifying himself as he advised the suspect to stop. The officer caught up with the male and demanded the suspect stop. The officer went to grab the suspect who pulled away and continued to run as the officer fell to the ground.

A second officer arrived who also told the suspect to stop running. The suspect continued to flee when the officer deployed his Taser and the suspect was taken into custody without further incident. After the arrest officers learned that the male was 14 years old. The suspect was transported to the hospital where he was evaluated and released to a relative.

“The police officers in Los Banos take great care in deciding when to deploy a Taser in an enforcement situation. When officers go “hands on” with a suspect and they resist, the level of force used is escalated. In this case, after the suspect pulled away from officers, he kept looking back as he was pursued by the second officer. Officers never know the intent of suspects being pursued. Though this suspect was told to stop numerous times, he continued to run, and was only taken into custody after the Taser was deployed. ”

Chris Gallagher, Chief of Police

The suspect was charged with resisting an officer in the performance of his duties.

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.