



Porterville Police Department
Press Release

Incident: **Narcotic Search Warrants Locates ...
Packaged Methamphetamine and Marijuana**

Date/Time: March 5, 2009

Location: 100 Block of South "E" Street, Porterville
1000 Block of East River Avenue, Porterville

Suspects:

Francisco Javier Lopez Verdugo,	46 years old,	Porterville Resident
<i>Juvenile Suspect,</i>	17 years old,	Porterville Resident
Ramon Ortiz,	49 years old,	Porterville Resident
Edwin Manriquez Saucedo,	22 years old,	Porterville Resident
Alejandro Sanchez Mejia,	23 years old,	Porterville Resident

Summary:

On March 5, 2009, at approximately 11:30 a.m., detectives with the Porterville Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (S.I.U.) General Investigations Unit, and the Tulare County Sheriff's Office served two search warrants. One of the search warrants was in the City of Porterville and the other was at a residence at a county address just outside the city limits.

During the investigation, detectives located **crystal methamphetamine** packaged for sale, digital scales, packaging material, and other items associated with the sales and trafficking of crystal methamphetamine. Detectives also located **marijuana** in a vehicle as it arrived at the residence.

Francisco Verdugo and **Ramon Ortiz** were arrested for possession of a controlled substance for sales, maintaining a residence where a controlled substance is being sold, possession of narcotic paraphernalia, and Selling Narcotics within 1000 feet of an elementary school. The juvenile suspect was arrested for transportation of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance for sale.

Edwin Saucedo and **Alejandro Mejia** were arrested for possession of a controlled substance for sale and maintaining a residence where controlled substances were being sold. All adult suspects were booked at the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and the juvenile was booked at The Tulare County Juvenile Detention Facility.

Investigating Detective(s)
Moore, Contreras and TCSO Detective Delacruz

Detective Supervisor
Sergeant. D. Barteau