



**Porterville Police Department
Press Release**

Incident: **Possession of Marijuana for Sales, Possession of an Illegal
Weapon, being members of a criminal street gang** *Case No. 09-2296*

Date/Time: **March 30, 2009 / 2:00 p.m.**

Location: **300 block of West Putnam Avenue, Porterville**

Involved Parties: **Thomas Cruz** (age 21) **Porterville Resident**
 Ronald Cruz (age 19) **Porterville Resident**

Summary:

On March 30, 2009 at approximately 2:00 p.m., officers from the Porterville Police Department were dispatched to the 400 block of West Putnam Avenue regarding criminal street gang activity. Upon arrival at the scene, suspects Thomas Cruz and Ronald Cruz were contacted.

During the contact with **Thomas Cruz**, he was found to be in possession of an illegal stabbing weapon. Thomas Cruz was arrested at the scene without incident.

Also during the investigation, **Ronald Cruz** was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana. The marijuana was packaged in small individual bindles in a manner consistent with possession for sales. Ronald Cruz was taken into custody at the scene without incident.

Both suspects were subsequently booked into Tulare County Jail for possession of a **dangerous weapon**, possession of **marijuana** and being members of a **criminal street gang**. The investigation into the alleged gang activity relating to this incident is on going.

Investigating Officer(s)
Officer Garcia/Meier

Supervisor
Sgt. M. Azevedo