

County of Santa Cruz

Sheriff-Coroner

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Phil Wowak Sheriff-Coroner

Sheriff's Media Release

Date/Time of Incident/Event:

3/21/14 2:37 am

Location of Incident:

208 Claus Ct., Aptos

Case Number:

1402288 and 1402289

Type of Incident:

Search Warrant-Possession of Stolen Property/Drugs

Suspect(s): Hugo Castaneda and Leah Bridge

Photo(s) Available: Yes __X__ No ____

Description of Incident:

On 3/21/14 at about 2:37 am, Santa Cruz County Patrol Deputies went to 208 Claus, Aptos searching for Leah Bridge (47 years) who had multiple Santa Cruz County warrants of arrest. The total bail amount for the warrants was more than \$215,000.00 and related to Burglary and Narcotics. Deputies arrested Bridge inside the residence and also contacted Hugo Castaneda (43 years).

During the contact with Castaneda, deputies determined he was in possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine for sales. The total amount of methamphetamine was more than 1 ounce. Castaneda was also in possession of more than 5 pieces of identification that belonged to other residents in the Aptos area.

One of the ID cards belonged to the victim of a burglary that was reported on 3/17/14 in the Aptos area. This victim was a 70 year old resident who was sleeping while their home was burglarized.

Deputies obtained a search warrant for 208 Claus Ct. related to stolen property. They recovered more than 60 items of evidence including items that were stolen from the 70 year old victim. Many other items seized are possibly related to burglaries in the Aptos area.

Castaneda was booked into county jail for charges including 11378 HS-Possess Narcotics with the intent to sell, 496(a) PC-Possession of stolen property. His bail is set at \$10,000.00. Bridge was booked into county jail for the above listed warrants of arrest.

Sheriff's Office Deputies and Detectives are currently in the process of identifying owners of the items seized during the search warrant and contacting potential victims.

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Press Release Approved by:

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