Recent Firearms Arrests in Monterey

On September 22, 2021, Monterey Police Officers responded to a report of an unresponsive subject behind the wheel of a vehicle in the 300 block of Glenwood Circle. The investigation revealed Brian Knab, 38, from Pacific Grove was in possession of a loaded firearm without a serial number, commonly referred to as a “Ghost Gun,” burglary tools, a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia and stolen property. Knab also had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. The stolen property in Knab’s possession was linked to vehicle burglaries that previously occurred in the City of Monterey and unincorporated Monterey County.

Knab was arrested for the following charges: California Penal Code (PC) 25850(c)(1) – Felon in possession of a loaded firearm, 25850(c)(6) PC – Possession of a non-serialized/unregistered firearm, 496(a)PC – Possession of stolen property, 466 PC – Possession of stolen property, 485 PC – Misappropriation of found property, 530.5(a) PC – Identity theft, 530.5(e) PC – Mail theft, Health and Safety Code (H&S) 11377(a) – Possession of a controlled substance, 11364(a) H&S – Possession of paraphernalia, and California Vehicle Code (CVC) 4463(a)(2) – False registration. He was transported to the Monterey County Jail and booked on the above charges with a bail amount of $45,000.
Firearm in Knab’s possession

This arrest was the third firearm arrest within the last week. The Monterey Police Department has seen a 200% increase in firearms related arrests from 2020 to 2021. The previous two firearms related arrests were:

On September 17, 2021, Monterey Police Officers were dispatched to the 400 block of Alvarado for a report of a subject brandishing a firearm. A vehicle fleeing the area was stopped and the passenger, Daniel Bello-Perez, 24, from Seaside was identified as the suspect in the brandishing. Bello Perez was ultimately arrested for California Penal Code (PC) 25850 (c)(1) – Felon in possession of a loaded firearm, 25850(c)(3) PC – Possession of a loaded firearm as a registered gang member, 186.22(a) PC – Participate in a criminal street gang, and 417(a)(2) PC – Brandishing a firearm. He was transported to the Monterey County Jail and held on a parole hold.

Firearm in Bello-Perez’ possession
On September 18, 2021, Monterey Police Officers responded to a report of gunshots in the 200 block of Glenwood Circle. The investigation revealed Marco Perez Cruz, 22, from Seaside was driving under the influence, struck two parked vehicles and attempted to leave the scene. Witnesses to the collision yelled for Perez Cruz to stop his vehicle. Perez Cruz exited his vehicle and confronted the witnesses to the collision.

Perez Cruz was arrested for the following charges: California Penal Code (PC) 245(a)(2) – Assault with a firearm, 12022.1(b) PC – Committing a felony while out on bail, 246.3(a) PC – Negligent discharge of a firearm, 25850(c)(1) PC – Possession of a loaded firearm with a prior felony conviction, 25850(c)(3) PC – Possession of a loaded firearm as a registered gang member, Health and Safety Code (H&S) 11350 – Possession of a controlled substance, California Vehicle Code (CVC) 20002(a) – Hit and run collision, 12500(a) CVC – Unlicensed driver, 23152(a) CVC – Driving under the influence of alcohol, and 23152(b) CVC – Driving with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08% or greater. He was transported to the Monterey County Jail and booked on the above charges with a bail amount of $220,000.

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