



SAUSALITO POLICE DEPARTMENT

John Rohrbacher
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE:

**SAUSALITO'S LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION
CAMERAS RESULT IN STOLEN VEHICLE ARREST AFTER PURSUIT**

For immediate release:

2-13-18 1500 Hours
PR 1 SP19-137
Lieutenant Bill Fraass
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On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at approximately 9:51 AM, the Sausalito Police Department received an alert from our License Plate Recognition cameras of a stolen vehicle entering Sausalito from Alexander Ave. The vehicle, a 1996 Honda, had been stolen from Santa Clara on February 9, 2019.

Shortly after the alert, a Sausalito Police Parking Enforcement Officer located the Honda driving through the City's Municipal Parking Lots. The Parking Enforcement Officer immediately notified Officers who responded and located the Honda in the area of Johnson Street and Bridgeway. When Sausalito Police Officers attempted to stop the Honda, a short vehicle pursuit ensued. The pursuit lasted approximately 3 minutes and reached speeds of up to 45 MPH. During the pursuit, the Honda struck a pole on private property and continued to flee. The pursuit ended when the Honda crashed into a retaining wall in the 2300 block of Marinship. The driver, and sole occupant of the vehicle, abandoned the Honda and fled the scene of the accident on foot.

Sausalito Police Officers in conjunction with the Marin County Sheriff's Office and the Mill Valley Police Department conducted a comprehensive search of the area. After approximately one hour of searching, Sausalito Police Corporal Francisco Padilla located the driver hiding in dense foliage near the intersection of Bridgeway at Nevada. The driver was identified as Christopher Burke, a 43 year old male resident of San Jose. Burke was arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle, evading law enforcement, and hit and run. Burke was booked into the Marin County Jail.

Since the City of Sausalito's License Plate Recognition Cameras program became operational on Thursday, May 18, 2017, nineteen (19) stolen vehicles have been recovered leading to the arrest of twenty-five (25) individuals. The goal of the License Plate Recognition Camera program is to increase public safety by utilizing technology to alert law enforcement to wanted vehicles, enhance post-crime investigative abilities, and deter crime by increasing the likelihood of suspect identification.

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