



SAN BENITO POLICE

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PRESS RELEASE



INTOXICATION ASSAULT / ABANDONING ENDANGERING CHILD

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2014



JAVIER JUAN MENDOZA: On Thursday September 18, 2014, at 01:52 am San Benito Police Officers responded to the gas station bar located on the intersection of Batts and Travis street. When a Police Officer arrived at the scene he observed a White 1998 Lincoln Town Car traveling east on Batts Street intentionally strike a 25 year old male subject. The Police Officer then initiated a traffic stop on the white Lincoln, and detained 61 year old Javier Juan Mendoza out of San Benito. The victim sustained minor injuries as a result of the assault, but refused to be transported by EMS. The preliminary investigation revealed that Javier Juan Mendoza was involved in some type of physical altercation moments before, and got into his vehicle in order to assault one of the other persons believed to be involved in the altercation. The Officers noticed that Javier Juan Mendoza presented signs of intoxication due to alcohol consumption, and requested a field sobriety test. The Police Officers determined that a blood specimen was needed from the suspect, and was taken to a local hospital for a blood withdrawal. Javier Juan Mendoza was charged with one count of Intoxication assault, and was arraigned by Municipal Judge Ben Yudesis who set bond at \$ 25,000.

JENNY MELENDEZ-HERRERA: On Wednesday September 17, 2014, at 9:00 pm A San Benito Police Officer arrived at a residence located on the 200 Block of South Milam while conducting a follow up on a different incident. The Police Officer then made contact with an 11 year old female child who stated that her mother was not home, and their neighbor was watching over her and her brothers. Inside the residence were 5 more children ages ranging from 11 years to 6 months old. The Police Officer then made contact with the next door neighbor where a teenager advised the officer that they were not responsible for watching over the children. The Police Officer then contacted Child Protective Services, and a social worker was sent to location. Several Minutes later 33 year old Jenny Melendez Herrera arrived at location, and was identified as the mother of the unattended children. The female advised the Officer that she was out shopping at a local grocery store, but recanted her story after the officers noticed that she was under the influence of an alcohol. Jenny Melendez Herrera advised the Officers that she was out drinking at a local bar. Jenny Melendez Herrera was then placed under arrest and charged with 6 counts of Child abandonment/Endangering, and taken to City Jail where she was arraigned by Judge Ben Yudesis who set bonds totalling \$15,000. Homeland Security Investigations placed an immigration detainer on Jenny Melendez Herrera.