



SAN BENITO POLICE

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PRESS RELEASE

POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE / ENDANGERING A CHILD

SATURDAY MAY 12, 2012



ON FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012 AT 10:05 PM, A SAN BENITO POLICE OFFICER CONDUCTED A TRAFFIC STOP ON A MAROON 2002 CADILLAC BY BONHAM STREET AND RAILROAD TRACKS. THE CADILLAC ALMOST REAR ENDED THE PATROL OFFICERS MARKED POLICE UNIT. THE POLICE OFFICER THEN MADE CONTACT WITH THE DRIVER, 20 YEAR MARCO ANTONIO VALENCIA. THE OFFICER WAS TALKING TO THE DRIVER AND HE DETECTED A STRONG ODOR OF BURNT MARIJUANA COMING FROM INSIDE THE CAR. THE OFFICER ASKED MR. VALENCIA AND HIS GIRLFRIEND TO STEP OUT OF THE CAR WITH THEIR ONE YEAR DAUGHTER. A SEARCH OF THE VEHICLE REVEALED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA AS WELL AS ALAZOPRAM PILLS AND 4 CLEAR PLASTIC BAGGIES THAT CONTAINED COCAINE. THE OFFICER PLACED MR. VALENCIA UNDER ARREST. THE MOTHER AND CHILD WERE RELEASED AT THE LOCATION TO FAMILY. A LOCAL HOSPITAL ADMINISTERED A MANDATORY BLOOD DRAW ON MR. VALENCIA. MUNICIPAL JUDGE BEN YUDESIS ARRAIGNED MR. VALENCIA ON CHARGES OF POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG-1 SECOND DEGREE FELONY, POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG-3 THIRD DEGREE FELONY, POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA STATE JAIL FELONY, ABANDONING OR ENDANGERING A CHILD A STATE JAIL FELONY, AND DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED WITH CHILD PASSENGER A STATE JAIL FELONY. JUDGE YUDESIS SET BONDS TOTALLING \$95,000. THE OFFICER NOTIFIED CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES OF THE INCIDENT.

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