NEWS RELEASE

EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: EPD Traffic Stop Nets Meth, Gun

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On 1/10/12, at about 4:24 PM, an investigator with the Eureka Police Department's Problem Oriented Policing Unit (POP) conducted a traffic enforcement stop for vehicle code infractions on a white Chevrolet truck at the intersection of E/Hodgson Streets. A records check revealed the driver, Fidel Alberto Contreras (AKA: Fidel Munguia, age 27), was on formal probation for possession of a controlled substance.

The detective searched Contreras' person and vehicle pursuant to his probation terms. \$1,767.00 cash (suspected drug sales proceeds) was located in Contreras' pockets along with 3 cell phones. Inside a hidden container in the vehicle, the detective found 7 small Ziploc baggies containing a total of approximately 22 grams of crystal methamphetamine individually packaged for sale.

Other EPD investigators responded to Contreras' residence on the 3200 block of D Street, Eureka. During a search of the residence, detectives located a loaded .380 chrome semi-automatic pistol, two boxes of ammunition, a digital gram scale, and empty drug sales packaging materials. Investigators also uncovered evidence of an indoor marijuana growing operation (two rooms with beds, soil, grow lights etc. but no plants).

Contreras was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession and transportation of a controlled substance for sale, possession of a firearm/ammunition by a convicted felon, and probation violation.

NEWS RELEASE

Anyone with information concerning suspected drug sales/criminal activity occurring in Eureka is encouraged to call the Problem Oriented Policing Unit at (707) 441-4373.

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