



**CITY OF EUREKA**

EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

604 C Street

Eureka, California 95501-0341

(707) 441-4060

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

604 C Street

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** 03/26/12

**Subject:** EPD ISSUES PUBLIC SAFETY WARNING – “BOTTLE BOMBS”

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**From:** Office of the Chief of Police

On Saturday evening, March 24, 2012, Eureka Police Department officers responded to the vicinity of Harris and K streets to investigate a suspicious event. The homeowners of a nearby residence reported hearing an explosion outside. Upon going outside to investigate, they found a plastic bottle that was still smoking. It appeared to be a home-made “bottle bomb” that an unknown suspect or suspects had just detonated. One of the homeowners had to go to the emergency room after being exposed to chemicals from the bomb. The extent of the victim’s injuries is unknown.

Citizens are encouraged to use caution when approaching any plastic bottle that appears to be swollen, has smoke or steam coming from it, has liquid and aluminum foil inside, or resembles a home-made bomb. These bombs are capable of dangerous explosive force and the chemicals contained in them are toxic to people and animals. Be vigilant in monitoring your yard and property if you have children or pets.

If you see a bottle like this, do not touch it or attempt to move it. Call 911 immediately so that qualified emergency personnel can respond to remove the hazard. The Eureka Police Department would also like to remind people setting a “bottle bomb” is not a harmless prank and may constitute a serious crime. Bottle bombs are dangerously unpredictable and can cause serious injuries to the wielder and unsuspecting residents including severe burns (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree), blindness, lung damage, and lost/mangled fingers.

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