

NEWS RELEASE

Bribery, embezzlement and other charges filed against six King City police officers and one civilian

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

District Attorney Dean D. Flippo (831) 755-5470

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today at a press conference that after a six-month investigation, six King City police officers and one civilian have been charged as follows:

Sgt. Bobby Javier Carrillo: Penal Code section 182(A) (1) - Conspiracy to commit a crime, Penal Code section 68 -Accepting a bribe, and Penal Code section 67 bribing an executive officer.

Acting Chief Bruce Edward Miller: Penal Code section 68- Accepting a bribe.

Brian Albert Miller, Miller's Towing: Penal Code section 182(a) (1) - Conspiracy to commit a crime; Penal Code section 67- Bribing an executive officer.

Former Chief Dominic David Baldiviez: Penal Code section 504 - Embezzlement by public officer.

Mario Alonso Mottu, Sr.: Penal Code section 504 - Embezzlement by public officer.

On separate charges not related to the bribery or embezzlement:

Officer Jaime Andrade: Penal Code section 30605(a) – Possession of an assault weapon; Penal Code section 25200(a) - Illegal storage of a firearm.

Officer Mark Allen Baker: Penal Code section 422(a) – Criminal threats.

Flippo stated that: “Arrests were made early this morning by arrest teams from the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Salinas Police Department and the Monterey County District Attorney’s Bureau of Investigation.

The investigation began as a result of ongoing complaints of corruption and other criminal acts within the King City Police Department. The District Attorney’s Bureau of Investigations began investigating these matters in September 2013.

Significant investigative and attorney resources were devoted to the investigation. Additionally, a Monterey County Sheriff’s Sergeant provided investigative assistance.

The investigation revealed a significant lack of leadership within the King City Police Department. Most disturbing was that evidence was uncovered of a scheme whereby people participating in the scheme would receive free vehicles that had been impounded by officers within the department.

The victims were economically disadvantaged persons of Hispanic descent who were targeted by having their vehicles impounded, towed and stored by Miller’s Tow. The vehicle owners were unable to pay the fees and the vehicles were sold or provided for free to some of the officers.

At that time there were four towing companies that serviced King City and impounds and towing were to be divided equally. Evidence revealed that Sgt. Carrillo impounded over 200 vehicles and 87% of these were impounded at Miller’s Tow. It is alleged that Brian Miller conveyed numerous vehicles for free to Sgt. Carrillo.

The defendants are expected to be arraigned beginning Monday, March 3, 2014.

The investigation into these matters is ongoing. Flippo stated that he had talked to the City of King city manager Michael Powers and was assured of city officials’ willingness to cooperate in all further investigations.

Additionally, Flippo wanted to thank Sheriff Scott Miller, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Salinas Police Department for their assistance in the arrests of the subjects earlier this morning.

For the residents of King City who are concerned about law enforcement protection and service, Sheriff Scott Miller is in communication with officials from King City to ensure that public safety is not compromised during this difficult time.

If anyone has any information about potential criminal activities concerning the King City Police Department, please contact: District Attorney Investigator Roy Diaz at 831-784-5648.