



City of
OAKLAND
California

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News from: **Oakland Police Department**



For Immediate Release

February 10, 2016

Armed Driver Arrested; Responsible for Multiple Assaults with Vehicle on Citizens and Officers

Oakland, CA - On February 10, at 8:32 AM, the Oakland Police Department received information from citizens regarding a vehicle being driven in a dangerous and erratic manner followed by a report that a similar vehicle had intentionally struck another vehicle in the area of E. 23rd Street and Coolidge Avenue. OPD units were immediately dispatched to the area. While driving to the scene, two OPD vehicles were struck by the suspect at Fruitvale Avenue and Hyde Street. The suspect vehicle, a black 4-door, Mitsubishi sedan, continued to hit numerous uninvolved citizen vehicles at several different locations as the vehicle fled the area.

Officers requested air support assistance from the California Highway Patrol and coordinated a citywide and multi-agency search for the suspect vehicle. Officers received multiple reports that the suspect was actively pointing a firearm at citizens in West Oakland as he continued driving. At about 8:45 AM, officers observed the suspect vehicle near 14th Street and Filbert Street and a vehicle pursuit was initiated. OPD intentionally ended the vehicle pursuit as involved officers weighed the speeds of the pursuit, the traffic conditions, and safety of the surrounding public against the need to immediately apprehend the suspect. With the aid of CHP and surrounding law enforcement agencies, the vehicle was seen in the 1700 block of Hearst Avenue in Berkeley at about 9:22 AM.

With multiple police units in the area, the suspect was located and observed walking away from the vehicle with his hands in his pockets. The suspect vehicle was located in the area of Acton Street and Virginia Street in Berkeley. The suspect, reasonably believed to be armed, initially ignored several verbal commands from officers to be safely detained. Soon after, the suspect was safely taken into custody by OPD and Berkeley Police Department officers at about 9:25 a.m. in the area of Delaware Street and McGee Avenue. The suspect is a 37-year old, male Berkeley resident. The gun associated with this incident has not been recovered. The Oakland Police Department is asking for any assistance from the community if the gun is located and to contact local authorities.

The protection of human life shall be the Oakland Police Department's primary consideration when deciding to engage in a vehicle pursuit. We understand that each vehicle pursuit is inherently dangerous, but at times may be necessary to apprehend dangerous persons who evade police in an attempt to escape. We are committed to accomplishing the police mission with respect and minimal reliance on the use of physical force when developing strategies for high-risk vehicle stops and arrests.

Four police vehicles and several citizen vehicles, occupied and unoccupied, were struck during this incident. At this time in the investigation, no major injuries

from citizens have been reported and no officers were reported injured.

This investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to contact the Oakland Police Department Felony Assault Unit at (510) 238-3426.

We wish to thank the citizens who provided us information this morning, the California Highway Patrol for their quick response and expert assistance, and the Berkeley Police Department and Alameda County Sheriff's Office for their partnership.

Nixle Tip Watch allows ANONYMOUS tipsters to send OPD a tip three ways:

1. Text **TIP OAKLANDPD** to **888777** from your cell phone followed by your tip
2. Call our toll-free tip hotline at **855-TIPS-247** (855-847-7247)
3. Submit a tip by web form - see the option at the bottom of OPD's Nixle messages or visit <http://nixle.us/tip/oakland-police-department-ca/> to complete and send.

Anonymous Tipping allows residents to proactively connect with the Oakland Police Department by submitting anonymous tips via web form and text message. Additionally, with the issuance of a tipping passcode to tipsters, we can initiate a two-way, anonymous communication to help gather more information.

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510-238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

Visit Nixle.com to receive Oakland Police Department alerts, advisories and community messages, or follow OPD on Twitter, @oaklandpoliceca.

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