

NEWS RELEASE



City of Rancho Cucamonga Police Department



Updated 12/29/09 Suspect Connell Caldwell linked to other robberies

Date/Time of Crime: December 24, 2009 at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Crime: PC 211 Robbery

Location: Del Taco, 7247 Archibald Avenue, Rancho Cucamonga

Suspect: #1 Connell Caldwell, 28 year old male, resident of Victorville

#2 James Smith, 24 year old male, resident of Upland

#3 Kerrio Fernandez, 30 year old female, resident of Barstow

Victim: Employees of Del Taco

SUMMARY

On December 24, 2009, at approximately 8:45 p.m., two men wearing black hooded sweatshirts and masks entered the Del Taco on Archibald Avenue. One of the suspects brandished a weapon, as they ordered all employees to the back of the store. The suspects fled the area with an undisclosed amount of money taken from the safe and the cash registers. Witnesses at the scene described the get away car as a black Chrysler 300.

At approximately 8:49 p.m., deputies assigned to the Rancho Cucamonga's MET (Multi-Enforcement Team) spotted a black Chrysler 300 at Archibald and 19th Street, and initiated a traffic stop. Deputies recovered a weapon, masks and money inside the vehicle. Connell Caldwell and James Smith were positively identified as suspects. Kerrio Fernandez is believed to be the driver of the get away car. All three suspects were booked at West Valley Detention Center without further incident.

On December 29, 2009, Deputy District Attorney Maria Bullock assigned to the Rancho Cucamonga District Attorney's, filed robbery charges against Connell Caldwell, James Smith and Kerrio Fernandez.

Detectives suspect Connell Caldwell is responsible for two robberies that occurred in Upland earlier this month. Charges are currently pending in both cases.

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Rod Hoops, Sheriff
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

CASE #110915518
Detective Pleasant