TYPE OF INCIDENT: Vehicle Pursuit and AK-47 Rifle Arrest
LOCATION: Saratoga Avenue @ Highway 85, Saratoga, CA 95070
CASE NUMBER: 20-321-0332S

DETAILS:

On 11/16/2020 at approximately 9:10PM, Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Deputies attempted to stop a vehicle in the area of Saratoga Avenue and Highway 85 for a red light violation. The driver, later identified as Erik Sanchez Jr. (24), did not stop and led deputies in a short pursuit.

While exiting Winchester Boulevard, Sanchez Jr. lost control of his vehicle, crashed into a dirt embankment and ran away from deputies. Deputies subsequently found a loaded and unregistered AK-47 rifle inside of Sanchez Jr.’s vehicle. After searching the surrounding area, officers with the Campbell Police Department located Sanchez Jr. nearby and detained him. Sanchez Jr. was a convicted felon and was on probation for grand theft.

Sanchez Jr. was taken to a local hospital for treatment of minor injuries and was later booked into the Main Jail on several charges including evading a peace officer, felon in possession of a firearm, felon in possession of ammunition, possession of a short barreled rifle, possession of a high capacity magazine, misdemeanor hit-and-run and driving without a license.

We would like to thank the Campbell Police Department and California Highway Patrol for their assistance and we are thankful no one from the community was hurt.

This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office at (408) 808-4500. Alternatively, you can contact the Sheriff’s Office Investigative Services anonymous tip line at (408) 808-4431.