MONTEREY POLICE DEPARTMENT

PREPARED BY DEPUTY CHIEF PHILIP J. PENKO
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December 2, 2011 10:45 AM

Update: Alvarado Robbery Suspect

On December 1, 2011 at 5:15 PM, the Monterey Police Department was notified that Ordway Drug Store robbery suspect Brett Edward Vossler passed away at Community Hospital. The cause of death has not been determined. The investigation into Vossler's death is being conducted by the Monterey County Sheriff's Office, Coroner's Division.

Earlier that same day, at 10:15 AM, Monterey Police had responded to a report of an armed robbery at Ordway Pharmacy in which the suspect demanded prescription medication. Vossler, the suspect, had fled the pharmacy and barricaded himself inside the restroom of The Old Monterey Café.

The police officers on the scene called for assistance from Seaside Police and the Monterey Peninsula Regional Special Response Unit (MPSRU). Once on the scene, MPSRU Crisis Negotiators attempted to communicate with Vossler but with little success. Vossler could be heard inside the restroom banging against the wall and breaking glass, presumably a mirror that was later found broken inside. After some time, the sounds from the restroom stopped and it was quiet inside. After approximately 50 minutes, during which time there were no sounds of any type from inside the restroom, the decision was made to make entry.

Upon entering the restroom, MPSRU officers found Vossler seated on the floor leaning against the toilet. He was semi conscious, non-responsive, with his chin resting on his chest. Due to Vossler's condition, it was not necessary to utilize any force to affect an arrest. Vossler was carried outside where he was turned over to emergency medical staff for evaluation, treatment, and transport to the hospital.

Inquires into the circumstances surrounding Vossler's death should be directed to Coroner's Investigator Randall Dyck of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office, Coroner's Division, at 831-755-3798.

Inquiries regarding the incident can be made to Deputy Chief Philip J. Penko at 831-646-3805 or penko@ci.monterey.ca.us.

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