

MONTEREY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Hate Crimes

This media release describes two hate crimes that were reported in Monterey recently.

On Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 6:00 P.M., Monterey Police Officers responded to a report of a road rage incident in the 2400 block of North Fremont. The drivers pulled into a parking lot, when the suspect exited his vehicle, brandished a knife and began to scream racial epithets towards the victim, John Doe. The suspect eventually got back into his vehicle and drove away.

The investigation revealed the suspect was Cody Page, 39, of Monterey. Page denied screaming the racial epithets, but video evidence showed Page displaying "white power" hand gestures before fleeing in his vehicle.

The case was forwarded to the Monterey County District Attorney's Office to determine if charges will be filed.

On Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:15 P.M., Monterey Police Officers responded to a report of a physical altercation on Fisherman's Wharf #1.

During the course of the investigation, MPD Officers determined a local unhoused individual, Ryan Aberg, 34 originally from San Jose confronted another unhoused individual, John Doe and began screaming racial epithets while attempting to kick Doe. Aberg admitted to the Officers on scene that he did scream racial epithets at Doe and attempted to kick him because of a disagreement.

Aberg was treated at a local hospital for injuries he sustained during the altercation. He was issued a Notice to Appear citation charging him for violations of California Penal Code (PC) 422.6(a) – Hate crime and 240PC – assault.

The City of Monterey had four reported hate crimes in 2023 (three vandalisms and one challenge to fight; two were based on race and two were based on religion). In 2024, two hate crimes have been reported (one brandishing after a road rage incident and one assault, both of them were based on race.)

The MPD recognizes the fears and distress hate crimes create and the negative consequences these crimes have on our community as a whole. The MPD is committed to safeguarding the rights of all individuals and prioritizes crimes of this type.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is encouraged to contact Lieutenant Jake Pinkas (831) 646-3816, or to remain anonymous call (831) 646-3840.

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