On Friday, April 3, 2020 at approximately 8:12 pm Monterey Police Department (MPD) officers received a noise complaint in an apartment complex on Helvic Avenue, Monterey. The Apartment manager and the MPD telephonically contacted the person who lived in the apartment and advised her of the noise complaint and the Shelter in Place violation, if there was a gathering or party for non-essential purposes.

At approximately 10:18 pm, MPD officers responded to the Helvic Apartment after they received another complaint regarding the noise. MPD officers made contact at the apartment and located four persons, three of whom did not live there. The person who lived in the apartment resisted and delayed officers in their efforts to investigate the noise violation and Shelter in Place health order violation.

The MPD arrested Ashley Deorona, 29 years old, of Monterey for Resist/Delay/Obstruct an officer and violating a county health officer’s order (148(a) PC & 120295 HS); Daniel Rosa, 23 years old of Pacific Grove for violating a county health officer’s order (120295 HS); Marco Flores, 23 years old of Monterey for violating a county health officer’s order (120295 HS); and Kianna Stokkebye, 26 years old of Carmel for violating a county health officer’s order (120295 HS). All four of the subjects were cited and released.

The MPD continues to receive information about persons and businesses that are potentially violating the Monterey County Health Officer’s Order to Shelter-In-Place (SIP). Since the inception of the SIP on March 18, 2020 at 12:01 am, the MPD has investigated and educated persons about the SIP. However, when persons blatantly violate the County Health Officer’s Order, the MPD will vigorously enforce violations of the order.

The Monterey County Health Officer has issued two updated orders, the most recent on Friday, April 3, 2020. Section 15 of the SIP specifically relates, “Pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all chiefs of police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and menace to the public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.”
The MPD continues to provide extra patrols in all locations of the City while “non-essential” businesses are closed. The MPD encourages all business owners to ensure alarm systems are activated (if present), that lights are left on inside, that windows are not blocked so police can observe any activity inside and that persons report any suspicious activity.

The MPD has and will continue to deploy overt (marked police vehicles and uniformed officers) and covert (un-marked police vehicles) police tactics to ensure criminal activity is thwarted. The MPD will use the same tactics to enforce the Shelter in Place Order, to ensure the imminent threat and menace to the public health is minimized by those who chose to ignore the SIP, thereby endangering the community.

The MPD implores people to comply with the Shelter-In-Place order. The SIP is in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect those who may become infected. Medical professionals have related that COVID-19 may not be symptomatic in 25% of the population, which may lead to more spread by those who do not realize they are carriers. Anytime that people have contact with one another, including first responders it endangers those exposed as well as those they later contact. Medical professionals, essential business workers and first responders implore all in our communities to comply with the SIP.

The Shelter-In-Place Order can be located at www.co.monterey.ca.us.

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