

PRESS RELEASE

I. DATE OR PRESS RELEASE: July 10, 2012

II. ANNOUNCEMENT:

UPDATED INFORMATION

Arrest of Gang Related Shooting Suspects

III. FACTUAL INFORMATION:

Last year on March 3, 2011, at approximately 3:15 p.m., the Livermore Police Department responded to the area of Chestnut Street at North I Street for a report of a subject suffering from a gunshot wound. When officers arrived, they found two subjects suffering from gunshot wounds from a shotgun. Several shotgun shells were found in the area of the shooting. The two victims (one adult, and one juvenile) were transported to a local trauma center to be treated for their injuries. Their injuries were not life threatening.

Based on interviews and evidence collected during the investigation, detectives determined the shooting was gang related. The lengthy investigation identified two suspects: Thomas Melching and Jesus Gonzalez. At the time of the shooting, Gonzalez was a juvenile. On April 7, 2011, Melching was arrested for his involvement. Melching was charged by the District Attorney's office for 245(a)(2) PC – Assault with a Deadly Weapon Using a Firearm and was ultimately convicted and sentenced to 5 years state prison.

<u>Updated Information</u>: On July 4, 2012, Gonzalez (now an adult) was arrested and charged by the District Attorney's Office for two counts of 245(a)(2) PC – Assault with a Deadly Weapon Using a Firearm. Although Gonzalez was a juvenile when the crime occurred, he will be charged as an adult.

III. SUBJECTS ARRESTED/INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATION:

Suspect #1: Thomas Justin Melching (DOB: 11/25/90) Suspect #2: Jesus Ramon Gonzalez (DOB: 6/29/94)

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