

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Press Release

(Title of Crime/Incident) Valley Fire Assist

Report Number: 15-23167
Coroner Number:
Crime/Incident: Valley Fire Assist
Location: Highway 175 and Forestry Road Cobb, CA
When: Date: 09-14-2015 **Time:** 4:17 PM

Victim Info :

Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
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Suspect Info:

Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
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Suspect #1:	James Dotson	23	Cobb, CA
Suspect #2:	Richard Tillman	27	Cobb, CA

Written by: Sergeant Joseph DeMarco

Synopsis:

On 09-14-2015 Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputies were assisting the Lake County Sheriff's Office with the Valley Fire, by patrolling the community of Cobb, California.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office has been providing mutual aid to the Lake County Sheriff's Office to assist in emergency evacuations and to help prevent acts of looting from unoccupied structures that survived the Valley Fire.

At approximately 4:17 PM two Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputies were flagged down and advised of a suspicious vehicle, a black Honda occupied by 4 subjects.

The vehicle was reported to be in the area of the Hobergs Resort and Spa on Emorford Road. This is one of the evacuated areas where buildings were untouched by the fire. This area is listed as a natural disaster area and closed to public access.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the area and located the reported vehicle driving away from the area. The Deputies activated their emergency lights in the attempt to get the vehicle stopped to determine why they were in the area.

The vehicle did not stop and fled leading the Deputies on a short pursuit which ended on a dead end road located near Highway 175 and Forestry Road.

The subjects were ordered out of the vehicle and detained.

There were four people in the vehicle, three adults and one 14-year-old juvenile. Two of the adults were identified as being James Dotson (23 years-old from Cobb, CA) and Richard Tillman (27 years-old from Cobb, CA).

At the conclusion of the contact, Dotson was booked into the Lake County Jail for vehicular fleeing, child endangerment, and possession of methamphetamine.

Tillman (Former resident of Ukiah, CA) was booked into the Lake County Jail on two outstanding no bail arrest warrants for probation violations out of Mendocino County.

The remaining adult and the 14-year-old juvenile were released at the scene.

For further information and booking photographs regarding the arrests of Dotson and Tillman can be found on the Lake County Sheriff's Office website.

Approved By: Captain Greg Van Patten

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