



SAN BENITO POLICE

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PRESS RELEASE

DWI 3RD OR MORE / DWI POSS. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

FRIDAY JANUARY 25, 2013



On Thursday January 24, 2013, at 3:57 pm. San Benito Police responded to a multiple car accident on the north bound lanes of Expressway 83 by the Oscar Williams Road overpass. Upon arrival the Officers made contact with a motorist who advised the Officers that a female driver involved in the collision was trying to flee the scene by asking other motorist for a ride away from the crash scene. The Officers then made contact with the female who was identified as 43 year old Valerie Yanez Lopez out of San Benito. She presented signs of impairment due to alcohol consumption. A field sobriety test was performed on Valerie Yanez Lopez, and based on the results the Officer detained the female driver for suspicion of driving while intoxicated. Valerie Lopez was taken to City Jail where a breath test indicated that her blood alcohol content was over the legal limit. A Criminal Records check revealed prior arrests ,and convictions for the Offense of DWI enhancing the Offense to a 3rd degree Felony. Valerie Lopez was arraigned by Municipal Judge Ben Yudesis who set bond at \$15,000.

On Friday January 25, 2013, at 3:05 am. San Benito Police responded to the north bound lanes of Expressway 83 in reference to a suspected drunk driver who had just been involved in a car crash on Expressway 83 by the Rancho Viejo area, and was being followed by the victim into the City. San Benito Police Officers located the suspected vehicle traveling north on the expressway, and proceeded to conduct a traffic on the Brown Ford F-150 pickup that exited the expressway by the Oscar Williams road exit. The Officers then made contact with the driver who was identified as 49 year old Russell James Karing out of Houston. The Officers then noticed that the driver presented signs of impairment, and he advised the Officers that he had taken medication earlier in the evening. A search of the suspect's truck revealed an assortment of pills in different containers, and the driver stated that he did not have a prescription for the medication. The Officers seized a total of 239 pills from the containers the include the following substances: Phentermine, Tramadol and Ritalin. Russell James Karing was placed under arrest for Driving While Intoxicated, as well as possession of controlled substance penalty group 3, and possession of dangerous drug in a drug free zone, and was arraigned by Municipal Judge Ben Yudesis who set bonds totalling \$20,000. The victim on the initial car crash was not injured, and was referred to Brownsville Police to file a report.