



SAN BENITO POLICE

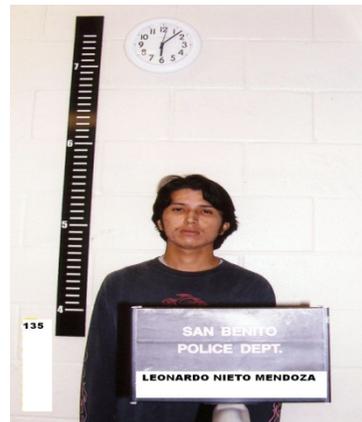
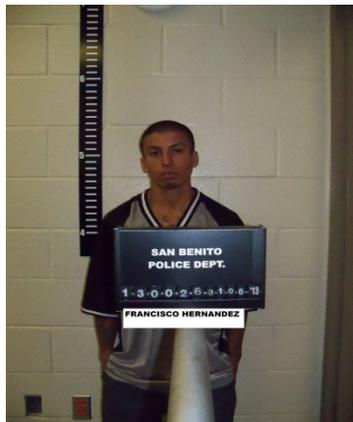
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PRESS RELEASE

ROBBERY / DWI WITH CHILD PASSENGER

MONDAY JANUARY 7, 2013



On Sunday January 6, 2012, at 4:48 pm. San Benito Police responded to Longhorn Cattle Co. located on the 3000 block of West Expressway 83 in reference to a burglary of vehicle in progress. Upon the officers arrival they made contact with the 22 year old female victim who stated that as she was walking out of the restaurant she noticed a white Chevrolet Impala parked next to her tan Toyota Camry, and when she was about to get in her vehicle discovered a male subject later identified as 33 year old Francisco Hernandez Jr. out of San Benito. The female victim confronted the male suspect, and on his escape attempt pushed the victim and managed to escape in the Chevrolet Impala. The responding Officers were able to locate the White Impala as well as Francisco Hernandez Jr. by the 200 block of East Robertson where he was detained, and later placed under arrest after the victim positively identified him. Francisco Hernandez Jr. was taken to City Jail where he was arraigned on Robbery Charges by Municipal Judge David Garza who set bond at \$50,000. Francisco Hernandez Jr. was later taken to the County Jail.

On Sunday January 6, 2012, at 03:49 am, A San Benito Police Officer observed a Red Ford Explorer traveling against traffic by the 1300 Block of West Business 77. The Police Officer then initiated a traffic stop over by the same block, and made contact with the driver of the Ford Explorer who was identified as 25 year old Leonardo Nieto Mendoza out of Harlingen. The Police Officer then noticed a 4 year old asleep and unrestrained in the back seat of the SUV later identified as the suspect's son. The Police Officer noticed that the driver presented signs of impairment due to alcohol consumption, and requested for the driver to submit to a standardized field sobriety test. The Police Officer then determined that the driver was in no condition to operate a motor vehicle and placed him under arrest. Leonardo Nieto Mendoza was taken to City Jail where a breath test indicted that he was over the limit. Driver was charged with DWI with child passenger and arraigned by Justice of the Peace Manuel Flores who set bond at \$5,000. Child was released to a family member, and CPS were notified of the incident.