



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police

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****MEDIA RELEASE****

Suspicious Activity Leads to Narcotics Sales Arrest 01/07/2026

On January 6, 2026, at approximately 2300 hours, an Officer observed a male subject riding an electric scooter on the wrong side of the roadway in the 400 block of Walnut Street.

Officers lost sight of the subject temporarily while attempting to make contact with him. When they located the subject, later identified as Ismael Martinez, 51, of Los Angeles, he was observed running from a nearby yard back toward his scooter. Officers contacted Martinez and determined he was on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) out of Los Angeles County for prior drug-related offenses.

During the investigation, officers searched Martinez's backpack and located a digital scale. Officers also searched the area where Martinez had been seen running from and located a flashlight containing a broken methamphetamine pipe attached to the outside of it. Inside the flashlight, officers discovered approximately 23 grams of suspected methamphetamine.

Martinez was arrested and later admitted to discarding the items in an attempt to prevent law enforcement from locating them.

Martinez was transported to the Mendocino County Jail and booked on the following charges: 11378 H&S – Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale (felony); 11379 H&S – Transportation of a Controlled Substance for Sale (felony); and 3455 PC – Violation of Post Release Community Supervision (felony). Martinez's bail was set at \$100,000.

The Fort Bragg Police Department can assist those with substance use disorders into treatment. Please call the Care Response Unit at (707)961-2800 and choose option 6.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Sergeant Frank at (707)961-2800 ext. 223 or email jfrank@fortbraggca.gov.

This information is being released by Commander Jonathan McLaughlin. For media inquiries, please reach out to him directly at jmclaughlin@fortbraggca.gov.



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