

## SCOTT LACHASSE CHIEF OF POLICE

## **BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

## OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

## TWO MEN INJURED IN GANG FIGHT BOTH ARRESTED FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT

DATE: April 8, 2016

On April 7, 2016, at about 7:05 pm, officers were dispatched to Jack in the Box, 2511 N. San Fernando BI., regarding a fight in-progress. Officers located 21 year-old Arturo Tovar nearby. He suffered multiple stab wounds to his torso. This individual, a known gang member from Burbank, was uncooperative with the officers and was transported to a nearby trauma center for treatment by Burbank Fire Department Paramedics.

Officers conducted a search of the area for suspects, witnesses and evidence. The search area included the adjacent Quality Inn Motel, 2255 N. Buena Vista St. Evidence was located in the Jack in the Box parking lot indicating a fight took place. Several individuals were contacted and interviewed.

Later in the evening, officers were dispatched to a nearby hospital regarding an individual in the emergency room who told staff he had been assaulted at the Jack in the Box. This individual, 18 year-old William DeLaCerda, a known gang member from Burbank, suffered multiple blunt force injuries to his upper body, face and head. He was also uncooperative with officers during the investigation.

None of the injuries are life-threatening and both individuals have since been released from the hospital.

This was not a random attack. The involved parties are from rival gangs and appear to have willingly engaged each other in this fight. Today, investigators contacted both men and placed them under arrest for fighting in public; with the felony allegation the crime took place in furtherance of, in association with and for the benefit of a criminal street gang. Both men are being held in-lieu of \$40,000 bail and due to appear in court on Tuesday morning.

There were several other people involved in this incident. The investigation is on-going thus no additional information is being released at this time.

Anyone with information on this incident is urged to contact Detective Henry Garay at (818) 238-3210 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) to remain anonymous.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT MAY BE DIRECTED TO SERGEANT CLAUDIO LOSACCO. @ 818-238-3240 OR CLOSACCO.@BURBANKCA.GOV

Press Information Office: 818-238-3240

**24-Hour:** 818-238-3000

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