



Tulare Police Department

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Traffic Stop Leads to Honey Oil Lab in Tulare

The following information is based on a preliminary, ongoing investigation which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records if available, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed

Two Tulare residents are in custody for manufacturing concentrated cannabis. A traffic stop investigating a possible domestic violence offense led to the arrest of Thomas Sousa, 22 of Tulare, and Salina Sousa, 23 of Tulare. Officers located several items consistent concentrated cannabis, a form of marijuana, for sales. The evidence led investigator to the suspects' residence in the 400 block of Haven just outside the city limits.

On December 25th 2017, at approximately 1030 a.m., Tulare Police Department's Dispatch received a 911 hang up from a cell phone in the area of Inyo and G Street in the City of Tulare. Officers were dispatched to the area to check. When officers arrived another caller contacted the police and informed them they had witnessed a possible domestic violence. A vehicle description was obtained and officers located that vehicle driving away from the scene. At this time the original calls are believed to have come from the suspects' cell phone.

Inside the residence investigators located a butane honey oil lab along with a large amount of concentrated cannabis oil in miscellaneous forms. Along with the raw cannabis oil, some of the

concentrated cannabis was mixed into things such as Rice Krispy treats, cookies, candies, lotions, lip balms, soaps, bath bombs and tea. The suspects were booked into the Tulare County Pretrial Facility on charges of marijuana for sales, transportation and manufacturing/operating a butane honey oil/butter lab.

The marijuana butter is made from a chemical process and is extremely dangerous. The oil also known as “honey oil” or “butter” because of its appearance and is extremely potent. These are then added to everyday items and in this case they were adding them to food, lotions and other everyday items. These suspects packaged their items to appear as if they were professionally manufactured and some were displayed with advertising labels.

Parents, teachers and employers should be aware of the many ways the concentrated cannabis can be hidden in plain sight. The process of making the honey oil also caused a large fire just outside of Tulare on 9-23-17.



Thomas Sousa, 22, of Tulare



Salina Sousa, 23, of Tulare





Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is urged to call the Tulare Police Department at any of the following numbers:

- During business hours at (559) 684-4290;
- During non-business hours or on weekends at (559) 685-3454;
- Anonymously 24-hours a day (559) 685-2300 Ext: 4445
- Online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/webtipstart.aspx>

Contact Us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: (559) 685-2300 Ext: 3454

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