

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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ADAM CHRISTIANSON, SHERIFF - CORONER

PRESS RELEASE

For Release: 1:30 AM, April 24, 2011

Stanislaus Sheriff's SWAT responds to Shooting in Hughson

Hughson, CA – Last night at 7:30 PM the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department responded to Tully Rd, Hughson for a subject who reported being shot in his finger. The victim, Antonio Ruiz of Hughson, said he was out drinking with friends and family on Cox Ln in Hughson when Juan Perez Belmudez, 29 of Hughson, arrived. He and Belmudez, who also goes by the last name of Perez, got into a verbal argument. Ruiz attempted to leave in his vehicle when Belmudez confronted him in his car. During the argument, Belmudez pointed a handgun at the Ruiz. The men struggled over the gun before it discharged, injuring one of Ruiz fingers. Prior to deputies arriving, Belmudez left the area. While deputies were interviewing Ruiz they heard gun shots from the area. Witnesses began calling 911 saying they had seen Belmudez shooting a handgun into the air in front of his apartment on Tully Rd in Hughson. Belmudez entered an apartment as deputies quickly set up a perimeter around the apartment complex. Near-by residents were evacuated for their safety.

Stanislaus County Sheriff SWAT and Hostage Negotiators responded. After approximately 4 hours, Belmudez exited his residence and was taken into custody without incident.

This is not the first time Hughson Deputies have had to deal with Belmudez, a convicted felon. In June of 2010 Belmudez was arrested for possession of a concealed firearm and shooting a firearm in a negligent manner.

Belmudez was booked at the Stanislaus County men's Jail for assault with a firearm, negligent discharge of a firearm, and felon in possession of a firearm.

For information regarding this press release please contact:

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