



Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

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Date: 2/16/20
Time: 10:00 p.m.

News Release

Butane Honey Oil Lab Explodes in Orcutt

Orcutt, Calif. – On Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 1:27 p.m., Sheriff's Dispatch received a 9-1-1 call of an explosion and smoke coming from an apartment in the 3300-block of Orcutt Road. Deputies responded to the residence along with County Fire and American Medical Response (AMR). When deputies arrived, one of the residents had already been transported by AMR with serious injuries. Deputies were able to quickly identify articles that are associated with a butane honey oil lab and detectives from the Cannabis Compliance Team (CCT) responded to assist with the investigation.

As a result of the initial investigation, 37-year-old Albert Alvarado of Santa Maria was arrested for child endangerment (felony), arson causing great bodily injury (felony), manufacturing a controlled substance (felony), manufacturing a controlled substance when a child under 16 is present (felony) and possession of marijuana for sale (misdemeanor). He was booked at the Santa Barbara County Jail where he is being held on \$500,000 bail. This investigation is ongoing.

The Sheriff's Office would like to take this opportunity to remind community members that the process of extracting oils from cannabis is not only illegal, but it is extremely dangerous. The violent explosion from this lab caused significant damage to the apartment including blasting a sliding door off the rails, and put the occupants and neighbors at serious risk. If you would like to report a suspected illegal extraction lab, you can call our anonymous tip line at (805)681-4171 or visit our [website](#).



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