



Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

Chris Dewey
Chief of Police

Press Release: Murder suspect captured in Mexico

On 09/04/2012, Manuel Rodriguez was suspected of being involved in the homicide of a 45 year old male, Duane Wesley Johnson. Johnson was discovered near the sidewalk of 329 N. Main St. beaten and unresponsive. Johnson was transported to UVMC where he succumbed to his injuries. A lengthy investigation led to identifying Manuel Rodriguez as the prime suspect in this case. Rodriguez fled to Mexico in order to avoid prosecution. A no bail felony murder warrant was issued for his arrest at that time. Since then, Rodriguez has been successfully avoiding capture.

In 2018, information was developed that Rodriguez was living in Guadalajara Jalisco Mexico. The Ukiah Police Department worked in conjunction with the U.S. Marshals Service International Investigative Branch (IIB) to locate and capture Rodriguez.

On Saturday, March 24th 2018, U.S. Marshals assigned to the Guadalajara Foreign Field Office along with Mexican Authorities were able to locate and detain Rodriguez at a McDonald's restaurant in the outskirts of Guadalajara. Rodriguez was then transported to Mexican Immigration and formally deported from the Republic of Mexico back to the United States.

On Sunday, March 25th 2018, UPD Detectives transported Rodriguez back to Mendocino County and booked him into the county jail for his outstanding felony warrant along with three outstanding felony warrants from Sonoma County.

If anybody has any further information about this investigation please contact Ukiah Police Detectives at 707-463-6262.

As always, our mission at UPD is simple: to make Ukiah as safe as possible. If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cell phone and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button on our website: www.ukiahpolice.com.