



Thomas Corning
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE: UPD CASE #25-2994

Date: 12/31/25

Location: 995 South State Street in Ukiah

Victim: 33-year-old male Ukiah resident.

Suspects: Pete M. Gonzales, 23-year-old male.
Adam Smith, 23-year-old male.

Violations: 664/187 PC- Attempted Murder (Felony.)
203 PC- Mayhem (Felony.)
211 PC- Robbery (Felony.)
182(a)(1) PC- Conspiracy to Commit a Crime (Felony.)
11377(a) H&S- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor.)

At approximately 3:45 p.m. on 12/31/25 Ukiah Police Department Patrol Officers responded to 995 South State Street for a report of a stabbing. Upon their arrival officers found a 33-year-old male bleeding profusely from the neck, chest, and hand. The male victim, who was incoherent and unable to tell officers what had happened, was transported by emergency medical personnel to Adventist Health of Ukiah. The initial report from the trauma department was that the victim was in extremely critical condition and might not survive his injuries.

UPD Patrol Officers spoke with several people in the area and determined that the attack had occurred behind the building and no one had witnessed the incident or had any information on the suspects. UPD Detectives were called to the scene while patrol officers began canvassing the area for any security cameras that might have recorded any portion of the incident. Officers located several security cameras at nearby businesses that recorded two males, and the victim with a canine, walk behind the building shortly before the incident was reported. A short time later the victim could be seen staggering out towards the road motioning for help, while the suspects fled in different directions. One of the suspects was carrying the victim's black and white canine over his shoulder when he fled the scene



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UPD Detectives were able to use the security video to develop several leads, and a further investigation into one of the suspect's social media accounts led the detectives to believe that Adam Smith, a 23-year-old Ukiah resident was the male seen leaving the scene with the victim's canine.

UPD Detectives contacted Smith at his residence and immediately noticed that he had shaved his head in what he would later admit was an attempt to alter his appearance. Smith was forthcoming with the detectives, and admitted that he and the other suspect, who was later identified as Pete Gonzales of Ukiah, had lured the victim behind the building with the intention of taking the canine from him. The canine did not belong to either Smith or Gonzales, and they had been attempting to take the canine to give it to Smith's girlfriend.

During the confrontation over the canine Smith drew a large sword from a sheath, and Gonzales pulled out a machete. Smith stabbed the victim in the chest, and as the two wrestled over the sword Gonzales struck the victim in the back of the neck with the machete. Smith and Gonzales then took the victim's backpack and canine and fled the area.

UPD Detectives were able to positively identify the other suspect as Pete Gonzales, who was located later in the day and taken into custody without incident. Upon his arrest Gonzales was also found in possession of methamphetamine.

Detectives executed a search warrant at a residence in downtown Ukiah and located the stolen canine as well as the bloody clothing Smith was wearing during the attack. Smith and Gonzales were booked into the Mendocino County Jail for charges of 664/187 PC (attempted murder), 203 PC (mayhem), 182(a)(1) PC (conspiracy to commit a crime), and 211 PC (robbery.) Gonzales was also booked for 11377(a) H&S (possession of a controlled substance.)

The Ukiah Police Department remains committed to keeping the residents of Ukiah safe and preventing violent crime while ridding our community of dangerous weapons and drugs. For updates about crime in your neighborhood, residents can sign up for telephone, cell phone, and email notifications by clicking the Nixle link on our website: www.ukiahpolice.com.



CITY OF UKIAH
POLICE

"Safety, Professionalism & Community Service"

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