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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 06/03/17

Title

Stolen Vehicle Recovery / Swift Water Rescue

Chico, CA – On 06/02/17, a citizen reported her vehicle stolen from in front of her central Chico residence. On 06/03/17, the citizen visited Bear Hole in Upper Bidwell Park. The citizen located her stolen vehicle and saw it was occupied by two white male adults. The citizen immediately notified the Chico Police Department Communications Center. Officers responded and found the now unoccupied vehicle near the trailhead which lead down to Big Chico Creek. Officers canvassed the area and located the two suspects swimming in Big Chico Creek. The first suspect, identified as Martin Plummer (05/15/63), was able to safely exit the water, however, the second suspect was too weak to do so. The second suspect, later identified as Richard Kennedy (08/14/62), was pulled downstream by the current. Eventually, he reached an area where the current travels beneath large boulders. Kennedy was pulled under and did not emerge from the other side. A Chico Fire Department swift-water rescue was immediately requested. Officers searched the crevices between the boulders and were able to locate Kennedy after a short time. The Officers pulled Kennedy from the water, pinning him against a rock so he could be breath. Chico Fire Department personnel arrived and assisted Officers with safely removing Kennedy from the water.

Witnesses were able to identify Kennedy and Plummer as the two occupants seen emerging from the stolen vehicle. Kennedy was arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle and Plummer was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Location: Bear Hole, Upper Bidwell Park

Date/Time: 06-03-17 / 1736 hours

Incident Case Number: 17-3827

Victim: Withheld

Suspect: Richard Kennedy (08/14/62), Martin Plummer (05/15/63)

Supervisor: Sergeant Brian Miller

Watch Commander: Lieutenant Billy Aldridge