SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT
Ed Barberini
Chief of Police

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MEDIA RELEASE / COMMUNITY ALERT

For Immediate Release No. 20260903-059
Thursday, September 3, 2026

Backyard Prowler Hooked for Attempted Burglary and Drug Possession

An adult male suspect allegedly entered a backyard shed and gathered and concealed approximately $2,000 worth of items before being interrupted by a resident and leaving the scene. Surveillance footage confirmed the suspect's actions and captured additional attempts by the suspect to enter the locked main residence through multiple entry points. During his arrest, officers located methamphetamine and unlawful drug paraphernalia in the suspect's jacket.

San Mateo, CA – On September 2, 2026, at 1:20 p.m., San Mateo Police Department (SMPD) officers responded to the 400 block of Highland Avenue on a report of a suspicious person at a private residence. Officers arrived and, after obtaining the basic facts from the reporting party, contacted Eduardo Ramirez Acosta nearby, who matched the initial suspect description.

Through surveillance footage and witness statements, officers learned that Ramirez Acosta entered the backyard of a private residence and then entered a closed shed on the property, where he gathered approximately $2,000 worth of items and concealed them in a backpack and box. As Ramirez Acosta exited the shed, he was confronted by the resident and claimed to be from a cleaning company that had previously worked at the residence. Ramirez Acosta then left the property without the items. Additional surveillance footage showed Ramirez Acosta attempting to enter the primary residence through multiple locked doors and windows. Officers also confirmed that Ramirez Acosta was not an employee of the cleaning company.

Based on the probable cause established during the investigation, Ramirez Acosta was arrested for attempted first degree burglary and second degree burglary. During a search incident to his arrest, officers located methamphetamine and unlawful drug paraphernalia in Ramirez Acosta's jacket. Additional charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of unlawful drug paraphernalia were added. Ramirez Acosta was transported to the San Mateo County Jail, where he was booked on his charges.

We ask our community members to stay alert and help us by reporting crimes and suspicious activity. If you see a suspicious person, vehicle, or activity, call the San Mateo Police Department. Trust your instincts. See Something, Say Something.

ARRESTED
Eduardo Ramirez Acosta, 23-year-old San Mateo resident

CHARGES:
664/460(A) PC-Attempted First-Degree Burglary

460(B) PC-Second-Degree Burglary
11364 (A) HS-Possession of Unlawful Paraphernalia
11377 (A)-Possession of a Controlled Substance

MEDIA CONTACT

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