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SFPD Arrests Suspect in Aggravated Assault Against Officer and Catalytic Converter Theft 22-128

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On 9/12/2022 at approximately 5:08 a.m., San Francisco Police Officers assigned to Central Station responded to the 400 block of Chestnut Street on a report of a theft of a catalytic converter.

Upon arrival, officers met with the victim who stated that two unknown suspects in a vehicle had just stolen his catalytic converter and fled the area.

While in the area of Larkin and Greenwich Streets, SFPD Officers observed a vehicle, matching the description the victim provided them with. When officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle, the driver began fleeing the scene and while doing so hit one of the officers and their marked patrol vehicle.

The officers initiated a vehicle pursuit and during the pursuit, the vehicle continued driving at a high rate of speed, striking both parked and occupied vehicles. The officers followed the vehicle to the area of Embarcadero and Market Street, where both suspects exited their vehicle and ran from the scene. After a short foot pursuit, officers were able to take the driver, 28-year-old female Lorraina Puefua of San Francisco, into custody. The male suspect fled from the scene and is still outstanding.

Medics responded to the scene and transported the injured officer to the hospital for non-life threatening injuries.

The female suspect had no injuries, as a result of the vehicle collisions and the foot pursuit.

No other parties involved were transported to the hospital for injuries.

Puefua was transported to the San Francisco County Jail and was booked for four counts of assault with a deadly weapon (245(a)(1) PC), two counts of resisting an executive officer (69 PC), conspiracy (182 PC), grand theft (487 PC), tampering with a motor vehicle (10852 CVC), felony hit and run with injury (20001(a) CVC), misdemeanor hit and run (20002 CVC), two counts of resisting/delaying arrest (148(a)(1) PC), mail theft (530.5(e) PC), reckless evading a Police Officer 2800.2(a) PC), probation violation (1203.2(a) PC), driving without a license (12500(a) CVC).

While an arrest has been made, this remains an open and active investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call the SFPD Tip Line at [1-415-575-4444](tel:1-415-575-4444) or Text a Tip to [TIP411](tel:TIP411) and begin the text message with SFPD. You may remain anonymous.

SFPD Case #220-621-125

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