



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

Press Release

Today's Date: April 8, 2009
Date & Time Occurred:
Submitted By: Sgt. Spruill
Phone: 469-6607 Cell: 707-689-3325
Case Number
Type of Crime/Incident: Public Notification – Sex Offender Release
Sexually Violent Predator
Location: 409 Chelan Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687
Suspects: Joseph Johnson, Jr.

Narrative: April 8, 2009: The Vacaville Police Department is issuing the following public notification for community safety.

Joseph Johnson, Jr., a convicted sex offender was released from the California Department of Mental Health, Coalinga State Hospital Sexually Violent Predator Program on March 27, 2009. Joseph Johnson, Jr., a habitual criminal and convicted sex offender, had previously been housed by the California Department of Mental Health on a civil commitment. Joseph Johnson, Jr. completed his prison sentence with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and had been classified as a Sexually Violent Predator. He was being held on a civil commitment until his release.

The Vacaville Police Department, the City of Vacaville and the Solano County District Attorney's Office were not notified of Johnson's release. Prior to his release Joseph Johnson, Jr. listed a Menlo Park address as his address of release. Joseph Johnson, Jr. was released from his civil commitment and is not on parole or probation, and is not under supervision. Joseph Johnson, Jr. made a choice to live with relatives in Vacaville.

The Vacaville Police Department is actively working with the California Department of Justice, Sexual Habitual Offender Program, the 290 Sex Offender Program and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and other agencies to obtain more information regarding Joseph Johnson, Jr. and his release.



Joseph Johnson, Jr. has an extensive criminal history. The Vacaville Police Department has documented his criminal history as far back as 1966. Joseph Johnson's crimes have included:

- 11531 H&S, Sale of Hashish
- 459 PC, Burglary
- 415 PC, Disturbing the Peace
- 12021 PC, Felon or Addict in Possession of a Firearm
- 261 PC, Attempted Rape
- 220 PC, Assault to Commit Rape
- 4532(B) PC, Escape Jail w/Force
- 261.2/261.3 PC, Rape w/Force and Threat – Great Bodily Injury
- 236 PC, False Imprisonment
- 245 PC, Assault w/Deadly Weapon

The Vacaville Police Department has determined that his crimes were committed in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Johnson is not linked to any open or closed investigations in the City of Vacaville. At this time there is no reason to believe he is involved in any criminal activity in Solano County.

This information is being released pursuant to California Penal Code Section 290.45 (Megan's Law), which authorizes law enforcement agencies to inform the public in order to enhance public safety and protection. The previous criminal history of the individual named in this notification places them in a classification level which reflects the potential to re-offend. The purpose of the release of this information is to allow members of the public to protect themselves and their families from sex offenders.

It is illegal to use this information obtained through this press release to commit a crime against a registered sex offender or to engage in illegal discrimination or harassment against a registered sex offender. Penalties for illegal use of this information are listed in California Penal Code Section 290.4.

The Vacaville Police Department will be distributing flyers and making notifications in the area of Johnson's residence. The Police Department will use the "City Watch" System to make additional public notifications within a 1-mile radius of Johnson's residence.

The Vacaville Police Department will continue to work with allied agencies to determine how and why Joseph Johnson, Jr. was released and to determine why no pre-release notification was made. Joseph Johnson, Jr.'s county of commitment is Santa Clara County. However, because he has served his sentence and was released without condition, Mr. Johnson can reside in his place of preference as long as he registers as a sex offender pursuant to the law.

Criminal activity can be reported at www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police, or you can call "Crime Stoppers" and leave an anonymous tip at 707-644-STOP.7867). Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$1,000 for information that leads to an arrest.



Anyone with questions regarding this public notification or any sex offender may call the Vacaville Police Department at (707) 469-4760 or the Vacaville Police Department Family Investigative Response Services Team at (707) 469-6600.