

Placerville Police News Release



For Immediate Release

Contact: Commander Dan Maciel

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Case Number: #23-0075

Shasta County Resident Arrested for Criminal Threats and Sending Harmful Matters to Minors

NEWS RELEASE

Placerville Police Department

Media Relations

Office of the Chief of Police

730 Main Street, Placerville, CA 95667

Placerville, CA – On January 13, 2024, Placerville Police Officers were dispatched to a local youth shelter regarding an adult male who was sending explicit images and videos of himself to several female juvenile victims. The male then progressed to sending threatening images and videos, several with the suspect holding firearms, while stating he was going to come to the shelter to sexually assault and then shoot the victims. This was all done through the social media platform Instagram.

An investigation was conducted by Placerville Police Department Crime Reduction Unit (CRT) Detectives and the male suspect was identified as 19-year-old Ryan Byers who lives in Shasta County.

On February 2, 2024, the El Dorado County Superior Court granted an arrest warrant for Byers and a search warrant for his residence. CRT Detectives traveled to Shasta County, and with the assistance of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office, Byers was contacted and arrested without incident. During a search of his residence, numerous firearms and ammunition were located. These firearms were the ones displayed by Byers in the threatening images, and videos he had sent to the female juveniles. Additional items of evidence, including electronic devices, were seized and will undergo forensic analysis.

After being interviewed by CRT Detectives, Byers was booked into the Shasta County Jail on the following charges:

Penal Code 422(a) Felony – Criminal Threats.

Penal Code 288.2(a)(1) Felony – Harmful matter sent with intent to have sex with a minor.

Penal Code 646.9(a) Felony – Stalking.

Penal Code 647.6(a)(1) Misdemeanor – Annoy/molest a victim under 18 years of age.

Byers is being held on \$150,000 bail.

