NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time Occurred: Monday, April 13, 2015
Crime or Incident: Extortion, theft by deception
Location: Chino Hills
Victim(s): Confidential
Suspect(s): Nisarg Patel (24yo) and Rajpal Shah (24yo) both of Anaheim

SUMMARY

The victim received a phone call from a male suspect, with an Indian accent, who identified himself as a representative from the IRS. The suspect told the female victim she owed the IRS back taxes and if she did not comply with his instructions and pay the taxes she and her family would be arrested and jailed. The victim feared for her and her family’s safety and freedom and complied with the suspect’s demands. The suspect told the victim to deposit cash into an account the suspect controlled. The victim did as instructed but the suspect was not satisfied. The suspect demanded more and more money from the victim. Fearing her and her family would be arrested and jailed the victim continued to make cash withdrawals from her account and deposit the cash into various accounts provided by the suspect. The victim withdrew and deposited over $40,000 into the suspect’s accounts.

On April 13, 2015, Patel and Shah were detained as they attempted to access one of the accounts the victim was instructed to use for the cash deposit. Patel and Shah both had evidence implicating them as members of an international theft and extortion ring. Patel and Shah were arrested for conspiracy, extortion, and theft by fraud. Both suspects were booked at the West Valley Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga.

Case# 221501294

For IRS tax scam information or to report an IRS tax related crime visit: http://www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Scams-Consumer-Alerts

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

Chino Hills Police/Sheriff’s Station 909-364-2000