



CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

530-897-4900

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Negligent Discharge of a Firearm Causing Injury to a Child

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Unit block of La Bella Court

DATE/TIME OCCURRED: 3/19/2017 at 1752 hours

INCIDENT CASE NUMBER: 17-01947

VICTIM: 4 year old child (Confidential)

SUSPECT: Ronald Cameron (22 year old Chico Resident)

NARRATIVE:

On 3/19/2017, at approximately 1755 hours, Chico Police Officers responded to Enloe Hospital on the report of a 4 year old child with a possible gunshot wound to the upper leg. Upon arrival, Officers made contact with the child and the child's father in the emergency room. During an interview with the child's father, it was learned that earlier in the afternoon the child was playing in the backyard with some toys. A loud "pop" was heard coming from the backyard, and the child immediately began to cry. Upon hearing this, the father of the child went to the backyard and noticed what appeared to be a gunshot wound to the child's upper thigh. The child's father immediately drove the child to Enloe Hospital for treatment for a non-life threatening gunshot wound.

After speaking with the father, Chico Police Officers responded to the unit block of La Bella Court to conduct a neighborhood canvass for potential witnesses and/or evidence of a shooting. While speaking with witnesses in the 2600 block of Lobo Way (directly east of the child's home); 22 year old Chico resident, Ronald Cameron was contacted. It was learned from Cameron that while cleaning his .22 caliber rifle, his finger brushed up against the trigger causing the rifle to discharge a round into the back fence. Cameron was unaware that the rifle round struck the 4 year old child that was playing in the adjacent yard.

Cameron's rifle was seized, and he was arrested for violation of 246.3 PC – (Negligent Discharge of a Firearm). The 4 year old victim suffered non-life threatening injuries and was released from the hospital.

Supervisor: Sgt. Mike Williams #S-14

Watch Commander: Lt. Scott Zuschin

Prepared By: Sgt. Mike Williams #S-14

Date/Time: 1/25/2017