



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1856

NEWS RELEASE

Incident Date and Time: Friday, December 4, 2020
Location: 3151 Edison Way, Redwood City
Type of Crime/Incident: PC 487 - Grand Theft (Felony – 7 counts)
Suspect: **Barbara Bonilla, Age 55, South San Francisco resident**

Summary:

While reviewing financial records for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Activities League (SAL) in January 2020, the SAL Bookkeeper noticed some financial discrepancies. A preliminary internal review revealed evidence of possible fraudulent activity.

As a result of these findings, Barbara Bonilla, the Executive Director of SAL and a Sheriff's Office employee, was placed on administrative leave on February 10, 2020.

SAL is a non-profit organization affiliated with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. The California State Attorney General's Office was requested to conduct a criminal investigation given the association between SAL and the Sheriff's Office.

The investigation determined that approximately \$25,000 was missing. On Friday, December 4, 2020, Bonilla was booked into the San Mateo County Jail on 7 counts of Grand Theft. Bail was set at \$70,000.

As of May 2020, Bonilla resigned from her position with the Sheriff's Office and is no longer affiliated with the SAL Program.

Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos stated, *"SAL and its entire staff was shocked and saddened to learn of the allegations. We are committed to providing service to our community and building positive relationships with our youth. We will continue to move forward with SAL for the impactful work the program does in our community."*

Other than expressing our disappointment, additional comments would not be appropriate at this time as this investigation is still underway and being handled by an outside agency.

Release Date: 12/04/2020

