

PRESS RELEASE



Sergeant Ron Salary
TPD Public Information Officer
(310) 618-5688
RSalary@TorranceCA.Gov



TORRANCE K-9 UNIT MAKES ROBBERY ARREST

On Tuesday, June 11th, 2024, at approximately 11:53 AM, Torrance Police Officer Couto and her K-9 partner Tango responded to a business near the 3400 block of Torrance Boulevard regarding a robbery that had just occurred. Upon their arrival, the Victim related that an unknown female suspect entered the store and asked to see a bottle of alcohol. While the Victim was holding the bottle of alcohol, the suspect grabbed it, and a struggle ensued. The suspect ultimately fled the business with stolen merchandise in an unknown direction. Although the Victim's life was threatened during the incident, the Victim was not physically injured.



Officers searched the immediate area for the suspect with negative results. At approximately the same time, Officer staffing the Real Time Response Center reviewed area video footage and confirmed the suspect fled on foot out of sight in an adjacent neighborhood. Officer Couto's partner, Tango, is a bloodhound. With the additional information from the Real Time Response Center, Tango was deployed and provided a suspect scent sample. Tango was able to lead his partner and additional officers on foot to a location in a low-trafficked area where the suspect was hiding. Upon finding the suspect, Tango let his human partner Officers take the suspect into custody without injury.

Bloodhounds like Tango have incredible scent-tracking skills because of the roughly 230 million olfactory cells in their nose. In addition, Tango is capable of following scent trails that are more than 300 hours old. Tango *nose* how to locate criminal activity. However, Tango would like to emphasize the crucial role of our community members in maintaining public safety. He reminds us all to report any suspicious activity. "See something, say something."

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