



Riverside County District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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DA'S OFFICE FILES DRUG-RELATED CHARGES AGAINST PERRIS CITY COUNCILMEMBER

RIVERSIDE – Drug-related charges have been filed against a Perris city councilmember stemming from his arrest at a Perris hotel earlier this year.

Julio Cesar Rodriguez, DOB: 10-3-85, of Perris, was charged in on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014, with two felony counts of furnishing a controlled substance, one felony count of possession of a controlled substance and two misdemeanor counts -- one each of being under the influence of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A \$30,000 warrant for Rodriguez's arrest was issued by a Superior Court judge on Sept. 25, 2014. Rodriguez has agreed, through his defense attorney, to surrender to authorities as early as Friday, Sept. 26, 2014.

On June 24, 2014, a Riverside County sheriff's deputy assigned to the contract city of Perris, responded to a theft call at a room at the Red Lion Inn on Redlands Avenue in Perris. The deputy contacted Rodriguez, who had called to report the theft of his iPad. Rodriguez told the deputy that the tablet had been taken by someone who stayed with him overnight in the hotel room. Rodriguez also told the deputy that he was a city councilmember and that the iPad was city property. During the investigation into the alleged theft, the deputy was told by Rodriguez that he, a friend, and a third man all spent the night together at the hotel. During the investigation, it was determined that Rodriguez was under the influence of methamphetamine and three glass smoking pipes were located in the motel room.

Based on the investigation, the following is believed to have happened: On June 22, 2014, Rodriguez tried to persuade one of the men to spend the night with him by offering him methamphetamine. A day earlier, Rodriguez had agreed to return an electric razor to the Walmart in Perris for one of the men and the store issued him a \$210 gift card. Rodriguez agreed to pay the two men \$100 and furnish them about \$80 in methamphetamine in exchange for the gift card. However, Rodriguez only provided the drugs and not the \$100 which is believed to have been why one of the men reportedly took Rodriguez's iPad from the hotel room.

The investigation into the alleged theft is ongoing and no charges involving that have been filed at this time.

The case, RIF1403168, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Nikolaus Peterson of the DA's Professional Standards Unit.