

K-Falls traffic stop leads to drug, weapon arrest

by Cheryl McDermott

A California man stopped for a traffic violation in Klamath Falls early Sunday morning was arrested after police found 14 ounces of crystal methamphetamine and a handgun allegedly concealed in his car, troopers reported. 14 ounces of meth, a handgun, and close to \$3,000 cash were allegedly hidden in a hidden compartment of the suspect's pickup. OSP photo.

Shortly after 12:30 a.m. February 4, Oregon State Police (OSP) Trooper Dave Chambers initiated a traffic stop on a pickup driven by Jose Bernardo Durano-Santiago, 29, of Tulelake, California. Tulelake is located about three miles south of the Oregon border.

Trooper Chambers, assisted by a Klamath County Sheriff's deputy and his drug-sniffing K-9 dog, found about 14 ounces of meth, a handgun, and close to \$3,000 in cash inside a compartment hidden inside Durano-Santiago's 1993 Ford Ranger.

The suspect was arrested and lodged in the Klamath County Jail on charges including possession, distribution, and manufacturing of a controlled substance; as well as unlawful possession of a firearm.

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