



# OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE



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**For Immediate Release**

**July 23, 2012**

## **MAN ARRESTED FOR NEGLIGENT DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM**

On Monday July 23, 2012 Police arrested 31-year-old Ryan Smith for negligent discharge of a firearm. There were no injuries.

On Monday July 23, 2012 at 1:59 p.m. Police were dispatched to the 200 block of S. Ditmar Street to investigate the report of gunshot heard in the area. Responding Officers were flagged by a man in the 500 block of South Ditmar Street. The man, identified as 32-year-old David Mitchell, reported that the suspect who fired a round from an assault rifle was in the house at 510 S. Ditmar Street. Police surrounded the home and established phone contact with the suspect, identified as Ryan Smith. Smith's mother exited the home shortly after contact with police; she was in possession of the rifle in a canvas bag. The suspect subsequently exited the home at 3:49 p.m. and surrendered to police without incident. Smith did not live at the residence with his parents.

David Mitchell, essentially told Police he and the suspect Smith, who is known to him, became engaged in an argument in the 500 block of Mission Avenue; they were both on bicycles at the time. Mitchell reportedly chased Smith the 200 block of S. Ditmar Street where the argument continued. At one point during the argument, Smith reportedly reached into a canvas bag and pointed it towards the ground. Smith discharged a firearm, still concealed in the bag, and the round impacted the ground near Mitchell. Mitchell rode away, but later followed Smith to his parent's house where he flagged down police.

The firearm recovered from the canvas bag was a loaded AR-15 rifle. The ownership of the rifle has not been established, and is currently under investigation. Smith will be booked into the Vista Detention Facility for negligent discharge of a firearm.

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