



LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jerry J. Adams, Chief of Police

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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date and Time: 11/01/06 0900 hours

Subject: Resident Shoots Prowler

Contact: LPD Officer Dale Eubanks cell number (209) 329-3496.

Details: On 11/01/06 at approximately 0143 hours the Lodi Police Department received a telephone call of a male attempting to break into a residence in the 300 block of Almond Drive, Lodi. As officers were responding to the attempted break in call, the Lodi Police Department received another call from a resident in the 300 block of Finch Run stating a man had been shot.

Officers arrived at 318 Finch Run and found Benjamin Ortega lying on the side of the house with two bullet wounds. Ortega sustained a gunshot to his leg and abdominal area. Officers determined the female resident, Noelle Fabrizio, had shot Ortega because she feared he was trying to break into her home. Fabrizio had discharged her .380 caliber handgun four times, striking Ortega twice.

Officers and Detectives examined the scene and noticed a wet area on Noelle Fabrizio's fence. Detectives surmised that Ortega may have entered Fabrizio's property to urinate. The resident on Almond Drive told police that Ortega was the same person who tried to break in to his residence.

Benjamin Ortega was transported to Lodi Memorial Hospital for treatment. At the time of this release he was listed in stable condition with non life threatening wounds.

Noelle Fabrizio was not arrested and the case is still under investigation.

Persons with information on this or any criminal case or activity are encouraged to call Lodi Area Crimestoppers at 209-333-6771. You may remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward.