



Ceres Police Department
2727 Third Street
Ceres, CA 95307



PRESS RELEASE

Ceres, California
Ceres Police Department
Brent Smith- Chief of Police

October 6th, 2017
7:30AM- For immediate release
Contact: Sgt. G. Yotsuya (209) 538-5719



Justin Stark 36 Yrs.

On October 5, 2017, the Ceres Police Department served search warrant for drugs and weapons at a residence in the 3700 block of Collins Road.

The investigation was initiated in September 2017 after the Ceres Police Department received tips from concerned citizens, reporting 36-year-old Justin Stark buying and selling prescription medication in the neighborhood. Further investigation lead to the discovery of Stark being a prior convicted felon and having an outstanding warrant for his arrest.

On September 26, 2017, Ceres Police Officer Matt Berlier initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by Stark in the City of Ceres. Stark was arrested for the outstanding warrant. A subsequent search of Stark's vehicle led to the discovery of a partially full prescription bottle that was unlabeled, shooting targets and a thick piece of steel containing multiple large caliber bullet impact marks. The information obtained from the traffic stop led to Detective Gallegos seeking and obtaining a warrant to search Stark's residence for evidence of drug sales and weapons violation.

On October 5, 2017 at approximately 0730 hours, Ceres Police Department served the warrant at the residence. The search resulted in the discovery of eighteen firearms ranging from handguns to large caliber rifles, several hundred rounds of ammunition, multiple prescription medication and evidence to support the sales of prescription medication. Justin Stark was booked into the Stanislaus County Jail for felon in possession of firearm and ammunition, and possession of prescription medication for sales.

This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this incident can remain anonymous and is encouraged to contact the Ceres Police Department Tip Hotline at (209) 538-5740 or Detective Eric Gallegos at (209)538-5638.

