

CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

JAMES R. HAWKINS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

304 N. 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846

620-276-1300  
FAX: 620-276-1313  
OR 620-276-1314

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

By Sgt. Michael Reagle  
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**Release #1:**

On Saturday, August 8, 2009 at approximately 12:09 a.m. officers of the Garden City Police Department were dispatched to 206 South Twelfth Street, Garden City, KS for a reported robbery.

The officers' investigation determined Ramiro Maldonado (31-years-old, of 206 South Twelfth Street, Garden City, KS) was in the front yard of his residence when an unknown male approached him and demanded his wallet. The male then displayed a handgun and hit Maldonado in the head with it. Maldonado and the male engaged in a brief struggle where the male hit Maldonado in the head with the gun again and attempted to physically take his wallet. The male was unsuccessful in getting the wallet and fled the area after taking Maldonado's cell phone.

The suspect is described as being a black male, approximately 5'8" to 5'10" tall, slim build and was wearing dark clothing with a hood on his head. Maldonado sustained minor cuts to the back of his head and was treated on scene by Finney County EMS. The Garden City Police Department is requesting anyone with information regarding this crime to contact us at (620) 276-1300, or if they wish to remain anonymous they may call Crime Stoppers at (620) 275-7807.

**Release #2:**

On Saturday, August 8, 2009 officers of the Garden City Police Department were dispatched to St. Catherine Hospital to investigate the sexual assaults of two teenage girls.

The preliminary investigation determined the 13-year-old and 15-year-old girls were walking in the northwest part of Garden City around 2:00 a.m. when they were approached by a dark colored sport utility vehicle. Five Hispanic males exited the vehicle and allegedly forced both girls into the vehicle. The suspects then drove the girls to a field somewhere in Finney County where the girls were sexually assaulted. The suspects then drove the girls back into Garden City and dropped them off in the center of town. There is no further description of the suspects to this point.

The Garden City Police Department is requesting anyone with information regarding this crime to contact us at (620) 276-1300, or if they wish to remain anonymous they may call Crime Stoppers at (620) 275-7807.

**Release #3:**

On Sunday, August 9, 2009 officers of the Garden City Police Department conducted a sobriety checkpoint in the 2200 block of East Kansas Avenue, Garden City, KS.

A total of 95 vehicles were stopped during the checkpoint with eleven drivers evaluated for driving under the influence. Officers arrested Bertha Wall (22-years-old, of 2605 East Fair Street, Garden City, KS) for DUI. She was lodged in the Finney County Jail.

While conducting the checkpoint, a vehicle drove over several traffic control cones to avoid being stopped. Officers pursued the vehicle to T Bone Drive and Schulman Avenue where the vehicle stopped. Officers arrested the driver Andy Sena (22-years-old, of 4180 Nancy Avenue #1006, Garden City, KS) and lodged him in the Finney County Jail on allegations of 2<sup>nd</sup> offense DUI, no proof of liability insurance, fleeing and eluding, transportation of an open container, felony obstruction of official duty, reckless driving, and possession of cocaine. Oscar Espinoza (17-years-old, of 4180 Nancy Avenue #1004, Garden City, KS) was a passenger in the car and was arrested and transported to the PATH on allegations of consumption of alcohol by a minor and curfew.

A total of 8 officers from the Garden City Police Department participated in the checkpoint. The cost of the checkpoint was covered through a grant provided by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

**Release #4:**

On Sunday, August 9, 2009 at approximately 10:14 p.m. officers of the Garden City Police Department were dispatched to Alta Brown Elementary School (1110 East Pine Street, Garden City, KS) for a reported aggravated battery.

When officers arrived, they found Michael Blanks (23-year-old, of 1406 East Laurel Street, Garden City, KS) with a stab wound to his right lower leg. Blanks advised he was inside the school working on his classroom when he heard someone knocking on the southeast doors of the school. Banks went to the doors and two Hispanic males motioned for him to let them in the school. Banks opened the door and the suspects pushed their way into the school. The suspects were talking to Banks in Spanish when they began hitting him in the face and threatened him with a knife. Banks was able to get away briefly before he fell to the ground and was stabbed in the leg. The suspects then ran from the school.

Both suspects are described as being 5'6" to 5'8" tall, stocky build and were wearing dark clothing. Banks went to St. Catherine Hospital where he received four staples to close the wound to his leg. The motive for the incident is unknown. The Garden City Police Department is requesting anyone with information regarding this crime to contact us at (620) 276-1300, or if they wish to remain anonymous they may call Crime Stoppers at (620) 275-7807.

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