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PRESS RELEASE

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Suspect: Norberto Lopez DOB: 07/21/82

On Saturday, April 23, 2022 at approximately 0035 hours, Kings County Sheriff's Office Aircraft (Air1) was patrolling in the skies over Kings County. Air1 was near the area of the Santa Rosa Rancheria when a subject later identified as Norberto Lopez shined a laser pointer a total of five times at the aircraft. Norberto left in a vehicle and personnel inside Air1 radioed to Deputies in the area who conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle Norberto was driving.

When Deputies approached the driver's side window they saw a black laser pointer on the seat next to Norberto. Norberto lied about his name and provided Deputies with the name and date of birth of a subject who was currently serving time in prison.

Norberto told authorities that he was shining the laser pointer at a blinking light in the sky that he believed to be a star. Norberto was arrested and booked into Kings County Jail for assault and battery on an aircraft.

Shortly after booking during a fingerprint scan, it was discovered the name Norberto gave was not his. A warrant check was conducted and Norberto had three active Kings County warrants issued for his arrest with a total bail of \$230,000.

Norberto later admitted to giving another name due to knowing he had active warrants.

Norberto was charged with assault and battery on an aircraft and false impersonation to make another person liable in addition to the three Kings County warrants, with his bail being set at \$325,000.