



City of Arts & Innovation

NEWS RELEASE

Police Department
LARRY V. GONZALEZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2026

CONTACT:

Detective Steven Espinosa
Public Information Officer
Community Services Bureau
SEspinosa@RiversideCA.gov
(951) 897-5866 (*Media Contact*)

CONTINUED ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS LEAD TO ADDITIONAL ARRESTS



RIVERSIDE, CA – On Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at approximately 7:07 p.m., members of the Riverside Police Department's Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Team conducted an enforcement operation at the Riverside Inn & Suites, located at 10705 Magnolia Avenue, to address suspected drug activity and other community concerns.

During the operation, officers were able to witness hand-to-hand transactions involving the sales of Fentanyl. The POP Team was able to identify the suspect involved in the sales of narcotics and he was later arrested and booked into Robert Presley Detention Center.



In addition, officers contacted 30-year-old Shawn Harper as he exited a motel room. Harper was found to have a federal probation- violation warrant and was taken into custody. Officers also discovered Harper was in possession of methamphetamine and fentanyl. Harper is a convicted felon and is prohibited from possessing firearms, however, a firearm was subsequently located inside his room.

Officers learned additional individuals were inside the room and contacted them. One of the occupants, 39-year-old Omar Garcia, admitted to possessing a firearm. Garcia is also a convicted felon and prohibited from possessing firearms.

A search warrant was obtained and executed. Officers located a loaded 9mm Sig Sauer P6 handgun inside the room. Harper and Garcia were arrested on multiple charges and

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booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center. Both subjects had their bail set at twenty thousand dollars.

A total of eight individuals were arrested during the operation for outstanding warrants and drug-related offenses.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is encouraged to contact Officer J. Alava at [951-826-5679](tel:951-826-5679) or JAlava@RiversideCA.gov.

The Riverside Police Department remains committed to addressing ongoing issues and community concerns in this area through continued enforcement and engagement.