



**SHERIFF LAURIE SMITH**

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**For Immediate Release- Media**  
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**Tramel McClough**



**John Bivins**



**UPDATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2017**

Last night, Tramel McClough was arrested by the California Highway Patrol at a Walmart on Trinity Parkway in Stockton, California. John Bivins remains at-large.

The Santa Clara Sheriff's Office Investigations Bureau has been working tirelessly on this priority investigation since the duo escaped from the Palo Alto Courthouse on November 6, 2017.

Our investigators have diligently pursued this investigation and followed every lead throughout the State of California. Recently, our investigation focus shifted toward the Stockton area. Sheriff's Office Detectives partnered with the Stockton Police Department and the California Highway Patrol in the search for the escapees.

The operation quickly transitioned into an apprehension attempt when McClough and Bivins were observed in a moving vehicle, a green 1999 Ford Explorer, license plate 7TTY505.

**Prepared By: Sergeant R. Glennon**  
**Approved By: A/S Sung**

**Date / Time Prepared: 11/22/17 @ 1100**  
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According to the Stockton California Highway Patrol, “At approximately 1716 hours, CHP units attempted a traffic enforcement stop of a vehicle on northbound I-5 south of Eight Mile Road. A short pursuit ensued onto southbound Trinity Parkway where the driver exited and ran into Walmart and was later apprehended. The passenger entered the driver seat and fled in the vehicle on southbound Trinity Parkway. On Trinity Parkway just south of McAuliffe Road an officer involved shooting occurred. A CHP Officer was involved and discharged his weapon. The suspect fled in the vehicle on northbound Trinity Parkway. This incident is still under investigation...”

Tramel McClough was the original driver of the vehicle and the individual taken into custody by the California Highway Patrol. John Bivins was the passenger who entered the driver’s seat, evaded capture, and remains at-large. Bivins is considered “dangerous.” **If you see Bivins please call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not try to apprehend him.**

Currently, we are working closely with our law enforcement partners in this active search for Bivins. We cannot overstate how thankful we are to the Stockton California Highway Patrol, Stockton Police Department, and all the other allied agencies in this collective effort to bring both these individuals back into custody.

Anyone with information on this case should please contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Investigations Unit at [\(408\) 808-4500](tel:4088084500) or the anonymous tip line at [\(408\) 808-4431](tel:4088084431).

### **DETAILS**

**Sheriff Laurie Smith is offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the capture of Tramel McClough and John Bivins. Have a Reward Tip- Call [\(408\) 808-4431](tel:4088084431).**

On November 6, 2017, at approximately 9:30 AM, two inmates escaped from the Palo Alto Courthouse. The escaped inmates are Tramel McClough and John Bivins.

Tramel McClough, age 46, was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail on February 3, 2017. He was booked on various charges including Robbery and False Imprisonment. McClough is a Black male, 6 feet 4 inches tall, 285 pounds.

John Bivins, age 47, was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail on February 3, 2017. Bivins was booked on various charges including Robbery and False Imprisonment. Bivins is a Black male, 5 feet 9 inches tall and 180 pounds, with a distinctive “EPA” stomach tattoo.

A Sheriff’s Office Deputy was escorting inmates through a public hall adjacent to an elevator when the inmates ran toward a door marked Emergency Exit. Just outside the building was a waiting getaway vehicle that the inmates utilized to flee the scene.

Sheriff’s Office Deputies and Palo Alto Police Department Officers immediately flooded the area in an attempt to capture the escaped inmates. Investigators located discarded restraints and a handcuff key during the course of the investigation. The Sheriff’s Office and our law enforcement partners are continuing a large scale 24/7 search for the inmates after this well-orchestrated, brazen escape.

On November 7, 2017, Rene Hunt and Marquita Kirk were arrested and booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail. Hunt, 54 from East Palo Alto, was arrested on felony charges of conspiracy, and accessory after the fact. Hunt, a known associate to at least one of the escapees, was responsible for arranging the vehicle the escapees utilized upon exiting the Courthouse.

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While Kirk, age 44 from Sunnyvale, rented the U-Haul Van and staged it near the Courthouse. Witnesses observed the escapees fleeing in a U-Haul shortly after abandoning another vehicle. Kirk was arrested on felony charges of conspiracy, and accessory after the fact.

Anyone with information on this case should please contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Investigations Unit at [\(408\) 808-4500](tel:4088084500) or the anonymous tip line at [\(408\) 808-4431](tel:4088084431).



**Marquita Kirk**

**Rene Hunt**

