



**SHERIFF LAURIE SMITH**

---

**For Immediate Release- Media**

**Office of the Sheriff**

55 West Younger Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95110

Sergeant Michael Low

[michael.low@shf.sccgov.org](mailto:michael.low@shf.sccgov.org)

408-808-4905

Deputy Jessica Gabaldon

[jessica.gabaldon@shf.sccgov.org](mailto:jessica.gabaldon@shf.sccgov.org)

408-808-4942

**TYPE OF INCIDENT:** Active Shooter Lower-Level Standoff  
**LOCATION:** Main Jail, 150 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110  
**CASE NUMBER:** 20-218-0015J

**DETAILS:**

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at approximately 1:39AM, we received a call from a deputy inside of the lower level ramp of the Main Jail in San Jose. The initial report was that an arrestee, later identified as 40-year-old Joseph Castro, was being brought into the jail by a San Jose Police Officer.

Castro was restrained in handcuffs in the rear of the patrol vehicle, but somehow managed to break into the cargo area of the vehicle and access the officer's firearm. The officer attempted to restrain Castro, however Castro was able to fire off rounds towards the officer. The officer was able to move to a safe location and called for assistance. The Sheriff's Office evacuated the parking area of intake and placed the jail on lockdown.

Numerous deputies and officers from the Sheriff's Office, San Jose Police Department, Santa Clara Police Department and the California Highway Patrol arrived on scene to assist. The Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT) and Crisis Negotiation Team also responded. Castro continued firing rounds from the inside of the patrol vehicle.

At approximately 5:48AM, Sheriff's Office tactical teams moved in on Castro and brought him into custody without incident. No one was injured and Castro will be booked into the jail on numerous felonies. Based on the initial investigation, the involved officer follow all standard protocols by securing his weapon inside of a secured area of his patrol vehicle. This is standard practice for any officer before a suspect is physically brought into the booking area.

Sheriff's Office detectives are actively investigating the circumstances surrounding this incident. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Investigative Services Division at (408) 808-4500. Alternatively, one can also contact the Sheriff's Office Investigative Services anonymous tip line at (408) 808-4431.

**Prepared By: Sergeant Michael Low**  
**Approved By: Undersheriff Rick Sung**

**Date / Time Prepared: 8/5/2020 @0830**  
**Date / Time Approved: 8/5/2020 @0900**