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OFFICER SAFETY BULLETIN



The Ventura County Sheriff's Department recently received information from a Confidential Reliable Informant (CRI) that the Hells Angels Outlaw Motorcycle Gang is using red bandanas as a means of identifying members and prospects that are carrying weapons. The CRI indicated members or prospects will openly display a red bandana indicating to other members they are carrying a weapon or firearm.



On September 25, 2010, deputies from the Ventura County Sheriff's Department Gang Unit observed a Hells Angels Prospect riding a motorcycle that had a red bandana tied to the rear portion of the motorcycle where it could clearly be seen. The deputies developed probable cause, stopped the rider, and ultimately searched the motorcycle. The deputies found a firearm in one of the motorcycle's saddlebags corroborating the CRI's information.

It is believed that a member or prospect could also display a bandana on their person indicating they are carrying a concealed weapon. Officers should be aware of this tactic when stopping and/or contacting members, prospects, and associates of the Hells Angels Outlaw Motorcycle Gang.

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