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Theft Group Charged in Apple Store Burglary

VENTURA, Calif. - District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced that commercial burglary charges have been filed against two men who recently stole from the Apple Store in Thousand Oaks.

On March 8, 2023, David Martinez-Cortez (DOB 10/26/03), of Los Angeles, and Elian David Hoyos Bello (DOB 01/20/00), of Van Nuys, are accused of stealing approximately \$2,300 of merchandise from the Apple Store at The Oaks shopping mall. A short distance away, the two men were detained during a traffic stop by Ventura County Sheriff's deputies. Hoyos Bello, who was driving, presented a fake Argentina driver's license. Deputies then conducted a search of the vehicle and found several new shrink-wrapped Apple products, a magnetic security sensor and door punch. The men admitted to coming to California from Colombia.

Both men have been charged with commercial burglary, conspiracy, and being in possession of burglar's tools. Hoyos Bello is also charged with being in possession of a counterfeit seal for the fake driver's license. Both entered not guilty pleas at their arraignment on March 10, 2023. They remain in custody with bail set at \$20,000 each.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Brandon Ross, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Serious and Violent Felonies Unit, is the prosecutor handling the case.

An early disposition conference is scheduled for March 21, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court, and a preliminary hearing is set for March 23, at 8:15 a.m. in courtroom 14.

Case: 2023005793
Defendant Information:

David Martinez-Cortez (DOB 10/26/03)

Los Angeles

Elian David Hoyos Bello (DOB 01/20/00)

Van Nuys

Charges

- PC 459 Commercial burglary over \$950
- PC 182(a)(1) Conspiracy to commit a crime
- PC 466 Possession of burglar's tools
- PC 472 (Hoyos Bello only) Counterfeit seal