



## Ceres Department of Public Safety

Art de Werk, Chief/Acting City Manager/Director of Public Safety



### Chief Art de Werk

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<http://www.ci.ceres.ca.us/Newsroom.html>

<http://www.facebook.com/CeresPoliceDepartment#!/CeresPoliceDepartment>

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: September 10, 2012 6:15 PM

News Release Contact: Jose Berber, Administrative Sergeant/PIO

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### House Explosion Rattles the Northwest Ceres

Ceres, California - On 09/08/12, the northwest portion of Ceres shook after a house explosion at 05:41 AM. Both fire and police responded to the 700 block of Foster Drive to find a demolished house. The explosion was so intense that it rattled and broke neighboring windows, with debris found nearly a block away. The two neighboring homes sustained substantial structural damage due to the damage. A large portion of the roof was found upside down main garage door laid on the street.

Witnesses told officials they had seen people removing appliances from the vacant house the day before the explosion. Fire officials suspect the explosion was caused by a gas line left open in the kitchen where a stove had been removed. Neighbors told officials they noticed the odor of gas in the area but did not report the smell to authorities.

Ceres police officers served a search warrant at the home on 08/30/12 for a suspected outdoor marijuana grow. 27 Marijuana plants were seized and one individual was arrested. Officers found two rooms inside the house wired for an indoor grow. The home had been vacant since the arrest.

Officials do not suspect these two events are connected but are asking anyone with information on the suspected theft of appliances to contact Detective T. Smith at (209) 538-5729 or the Stanislaus Area Crime Stoppers at:

**Stanislaus Area Crime Stoppers.**

**Phone number: 1-866-60-CRIME**

**Text Tips: "274637" TIP704 in the wording**

**Website: [www.modestopolice.com/crimestoppers](http://www.modestopolice.com/crimestoppers)**