



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

February 3, 2012

VPD Report Number:

12-01737

Date/Time Occurred:

2/3/12 0836 hours

Type of Incident:

Firearm arrest/ Possession of Stolen Property

Location:

Bridge/Laurel

Victim or Party:

1. State of California
- 2.
- 3.

Age:

Suspect:

1. Anthony Cortez
2. Unknown
3. Unknown

Age:

24

Arrested:

Yes
No
No

Details:

On the listed date and time, a Visalia Police Department patrol officer attempted to contact a suspicious vehicle in the area of Bridge and Laurel. Prior to making contact three occupants in the vehicle fled on foot into the surrounding neighborhood. Assisting officers were able to locate and arrest suspect Anthony Cortez who had discarded two firearms while fleeing. The two other suspects and the original suspicious vehicle were not located.

Further investigation revealed one of the firearms discarded by Cortez was reported stolen from Northern California. Suspect Cortez is an active gang member from Visalia. He was booked at the Tulare County Main Jail for a felon being in possession of a firearm, possessing stolen property, parole violation, resisting arrest, and gang enhancements.

Nearby Washington Elementary School was placed on lockdown during this incident for precautionary reasons. If anyone has information regarding this case, they are urged to contact the Visalia Police Department at 734-8116.

Arresting / Investigating Officer(s):

Officers Dowling and Morgantini

Supervisor: Sgt. Maurice

