

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Amy Watkins, Public Information Officer (559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) awatkins@ci.visalia.ca.us

NEWS RELEASE
March 28, 2013

VPD Report Number: 13-03615

13-03617

Date/Time Occurred: 03/27/13 0109 hrs

03/27/13 0325 hrs

Type of Incident: Armed Robbery/ Drive-by Shooting

Arrests ******UPDATED*****

Location: 518 S Lovers Lane (7-11 Market)

600 blk East K Road (a residence)

Name of Business (if applicable):

7-11 Market

Suspect:	<u> Age:</u>	Arrested:
1. Alex Flores	19	Yes
2. Jacob Elms (Ojeda)	22	Yes
3. Reyna Flores	23	Yes
4. Male Juvenile	17	Yes
5. Male Juvenile ******UPDATED*****	14	Yes

Details: On 03/27/13 at 0109 hours, Officers were sent to the 7-11 Market located at 518 S. Lovers Lane for an armed robbery which had just occurred. The investigation revealed three suspects entered the store, two armed with handguns, and demanded money from the store clerk and a customer. Both the clerk and the customer complied with their demands and handed over their money. The suspect then retrieved two 18 packs of beer from the refrigerator and fled the store by unknown means. No one was injured during the robbery.

On 03/27/13 at 0325 hours, Officers responded to the 600 block East K Road for a drive by shooting at a residence. An Officer located a suspicious vehicle in the 900 block East K Road and conducted a traffic stop. The vehicle was occupied by the above listed three males and one female. During the investigation a loaded firearm was located in the vehicle. Additional evidence was located in the vehicle, as well as witnesses at the crime scene, connecting



the four occupants to the drive-by shooting. Also, additional evidence was located connecting the suspects to the armed robbery at the 7-11 Market at 0109 hours. No one was injured in the drive-by shooting; however, a residence was struck.

All four suspects were arrested for Shooting at an Occupied Residence, Conspiracy, Possession of a Loaded Firearm in a Vehicle, Gang Enhancement, and Possession of Stolen Property. Alex Flores and Jacod Elms (Ojeda) had the additional charge of Armed Robbery.

This on-going investigation is being investigated by the VPD Violent Crimes Unit. Anyone with additional information is urged to contact Detective Jennings at 713-4727 or Detective Ford at 713-4294.

On 03/28/13 at 1045 hours, the VPD Gang Suppression Unit located the fifth and final suspect in the armed robbery and drive-by shooting on 03/27/13. The 14 year old suspect was arrested without incident. The Violent Crimes Unit served a search warrant at his residence and located evidence linking him with the crimes. He was subsequently booked at the Tulare County Juvenile Hall for the above listed offenses.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: VC Unit Supervisor: Sgt. Lentzner S123