

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\* July 22, 2015

**VPD Report Number:** 15-08306, 15-08789 **Date/Time Occurred:** 6/17/15 @ 0218 Hours.

6/25/15 @ 0036 Hours

**Location:** Valeros, 4445 W. Noble Ave.

7-11, 1201 S Mooney Blvd.

Name of Business (if applicable):

**Type of Incident:** Armed Robbery

**Suspect: Arrested:** Age: 25 yes

1. Torales, John Martin

2.

3.

**Details:** On 6/17/15 at 0218 Hours and on 6/25/15 at 0036 Hours, Visalia Police were dispatched to an Armed Robbery had just occurred at the above listed locations. Officers learned that an unknown suspect entered the business, on both occassions, with an item covering his face. Once inside, the suspect pointed a gun at the clerk and demanded money. The suspect obtained an undetermined amount of US Currency and fled the scene in a vehicle. The clerks did not receive any injuries.

The Violent Crimes Unit conducted a follow up investigation into these incidents. The investigation revealed that Suspect John Torales was responsible for both armed robberies. On 7/18/15, Suspect Torales was arrested for a Parole Violation by the Farmersville Police Department, on an unrelated incident, while in the company of Estevan Gomez, who was involved in the officer invovled shooting with the Farmersville Police Department..

On 7/20/15 at 1330 Hours, a search warrant was served at a residence associated with the Suspect Torales. Evidence was located which linked Suspect Torales to both robberies. On 7/21/15, Suspect Torales, who was being held at the Tulare County Jail for unrelated charges was booked for the 7-11 and Valeros armed robberies that occurred on 6/17/15 and 6/25/15. The investigation is continuing.



Arresting / Investigating Officer: VPD Patrol/ Violent Crimes Supervisor: Sgt. Kroeze S159