

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Sergeant Damon Maurice, Public Information Officer (559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) damon.maurice@visalia.city

\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\* August 5, 2016

VPD Report Number: 16-12390 Type of Incident: Grand Theft /Fraud / ID Theft **Date/Time Occurred:** 7-29-16 / Present **Location:** 1100 Block N. Rinaldi

Name of Business (if applicable):

| Suspect:                           | Age: | Arrested: |
|------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| 1. Nicholas Daniel Cardenas Vallez | 28   | YES       |

- 2.
- 3.

**Details:** On 7-29-16, Visalia PD Property Crimes Detectives began an investigation into a Real Estate Rental Fraud case involving SUSPECT/Vallez and numerous victims in the City of Visalia. SUSPECT/Vallez fraudulently represented himself as the owner of a property he did not in fact own and took money from potential renters. SUSPECT/Vallez also took money from the victims in the form of Rental Application Fees. Property Crimes Detectives and the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations Real Estate Fraud Unit began contacting the victims and the actual property owner to build this case. To date, 11 victims of this Fraud have been identified and contacted with a potential for additional victims being identified in the future.

On 8-5-16 SUSPECT/Vallez was contacted and arrested at his place of employment. He was booked at Tulare County Pre Trial Facility on numerous Felony and Misdemeanor charges.

**Arresting / Investigating Officer:** Visalia PD Property Crimes Unit and the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations

Supervisor: Sgt. Feller

