

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE March 4, 2022

VPD Report Number: 22-017511, 22-017515, 22-017513, 22-017485 **Type of Incident:** Arson

Date/Time Occurred: March 4, 2022, 12:20 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. Location: 1900 Block E. Mineral King, 200 Block N. Santa Fe, Encina/Center, 100 Block of W. Main

<u>Name of Business (if applicable):</u> American Tire Depot City of Visalia

Age:

Arrested:

Suspect: 1. Unknown 2.

Details: On March 4, 2022, at approximately 12:20 a.m., officers responded to a fire in the 1900 Block of E. Mineral King. Upon arrival, they discovered a pile of tires was on fire and the fire was starting to catch the building on fire. The Visalia Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire. An investigation was conducted, and it was determined this fire was an intentional act.

At approximately 4:10 a.m., officers responded to the 200 Block of N. Santa Fe for a vehicle on fire threatening a building. Upon arrival, they discovered a City of Visalia vehicle fully engulfed. While officers were investigating this fire, an additional vehicle fire was reported at Encina and Center. Officers were investigating the second vehicle fire when a fourth fire was reported in the 100 Block of W. Main. All these fires were believed to be arson.

The Visalia Police Department is looking for the public's assistance in identifying the individual responsible for starting these fires. Anyone with information can contact Detective Jason Logas at (559) 713-4656 or the Anonymous Tip Line at (559) 713-4738.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/Property Crimes

Supervisor: Sergeant Bryan Somavia

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