

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE
October 24, 2012

VPD Report Number: 12-15454 & 09-17897 **Date/Time Occurred:** 10/22/12 1230 hours

11/16/09 1237 hours

Type of Incident: Armed Bank Robbery Location: 2100 N Dinuba Blvd

Victim or Party:

Age:

1. Visalia Community Bank

N/A

2.

3.

Suspect: Age: Arrested:

1. Huerta, Johnny 50 Yes

2. Unknown No

3.

Details: On October 22, 2012 shorty after 12:30 PM, officers from the Visalia Police Department responded to Visalia Community Bank on the corner of Dinuba Boulevard and Ferguson Street regarding a bank robbery that had just occurred.

On scene officers learned that two adult males, 30-40 years of age, entered the Visalia Community Bank disguised in women's clothing. One suspect was armed with a handgun and provided a note demanding money.

No patrons were inside the bank at the time of the robbery and no bank employees were injured during the robbery. The suspects fled the area with an undisclosed amount of money.

The VPD Violent Crimes Unit conducted follow up and was able to identify one of the suspects as Johnny Huerta. He was taken into custody on 10/23/12 at approximately 1730 hours. A search warrant was served at his residence in the city of Visalia by the VPD SWAT Team.

Johnny Huerta was also identified as the suspect who committed an armed robbery at the same bank on 11/16/09. He entered the bank with a mask and brandished a handgun during the robbery. He fled the bank with an undisclosed amount of money. No one was injured during this robbery.

The Violent Crimes Unit is actively investigating the recent bank robbery. If anyone has any information they are encouraged to contact Detective Scott Nelson at 713-4091 or Sergeant Randy Lentzner at 713-4234.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Violent Crimes Unit **Supervisor:** Sgt Lentzner S123