

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE
July 6, 2013

Date/Time Occurred: 7/6/13 1730 hours

Location: 2500 Block of East La Vida

VPD Report Number: 13-08215

Type of Incident:

Cultivation of Marijuana

Conspiracy

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:	<u>Age:</u>	Arrested:
1. Wai Ngan	29	Yes
2. Young Wei Wong	28	Yes
3.		

Details: On 7/6/13 1730 hours, officers were dispatched to a trespassing call in the 2300 block of E. La Vida at a vacant residence. When officers arrived, they were able to make contact with the two suspects and could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the residence. Upon entering the residence, officers located a large marijuana grow inside the residence and three other rooms in the residence that were being converted into marijuana grow rooms.

Detectives from the Narcotics Unit were called to the scene and took over the investigation. There were 435 marijuana plants located in the main grow room and there were three bedrooms that were being converted to grow rooms. There were no signs that anyone was actually living in the residence. The suspects had also bypassed the electrical meters and were stealing power for their grow.

Both suspects were transported and booked into the Tulare County Jail for Cultivation of Marijuana and Conspiracy. Both suspects were out of the San Francisco area. The estimated street value of the marijuana that could have been produced by these plants at maturity would be approximately \$870,000.



Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol and Narcotics Unit Supervisor: R. Epp