

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE
November 17, 2013

VPD Report Number: 13-14285 **Date/Time Occurred:** 11/16/13 at 2345 Hours

Type of Incident: Firearm Arrest **Location:** Sweet / Stevenson

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:	Age:	Arrested:
1. Chavez, Victor	18	yes
2. Ortega, Jason	19	yes
3. Gonzalez, Mia	19	yes

Details: 4. Alcarado, Noe Age: 18 (arrested) 5. Mora, Fernando Age: 25 (arrested.

On 11/16/13 at approx. 2330 hours Officers with the Visalia Police Department responded to a call for service regarding suspected gang members smoking narcotics and causing a disturbance in the area of Sowell and Vine in the City of Visalia. While conducting an area check a Visalia Police Officer spotted numerous validated northern gang members. Following the call officers remained in the area. At approx. 2346 hours officers observed a vehicle rapidly leaving the area and conducted a traffic stop at Sweet and Highland. Upon stopping the vehicle 18 year old Victor Chavez ran from the vehicle and was quickly apprehended. Upon arrest officers discovered that Chavez was carrying a loaded handgun on his person. Further investigation revealed that all but one of the occupants in the vehicle are validated northern gang members in the City of Visalia. The occupants of the vehicle were arrested and booked into the Tulare County Jail for numerous firearm related charges along with gang enhancements.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol / Gang Suppression Unit **Supervisor:** Sgt. C. Brown

