

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE
June 12, 2018

VPD Report Number: 18-52174

Type of Incident: Failure to Yield Arrest

Evading / Auto Theft / Grand Theft / Possession & Transport Methamphetamine for Sale / Warrants

Date/Time Occurred: 6-12-18 / 0120 hrs to 0140 hrs

Location: Goshen/Mooney in Visalia to 8360 Block of 9

1/4 Avenue in Hanford

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:	Age:	Arrested:
1. Justin Brown	29	YES
2. Elizabeth Gomez	30	YES
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Details: On 6-12-18 at approximately 0120 hours, a VPD patrol officer located a stolen, 2014 Ford Escape traveling west on Goshen Avenue near Mooney Blvd. When the officer attempted a traffic stop on the vehicle the driver failed to yield, leading three patrol units on a pursuit that headed west on HWY 198, and ended just north of Hanford. At the beginning of the pursuit a bag containing narcotics was thrown from the vehicle. The recovered contraband was determined to be methamphetamine with a weight of nearly 2 ounces. The driver, Justin Brown of Visalia, ran from the vehicle along with his girlfriend, Elizabeth Gomez of Ivanhoe. Both suspects were quickly apprehended. It was learned that Justin Brown is currently on AB 109 felony probation for auto theft and has an outstanding felony warrant for Identity Theft. Elizabeth Gomez was found to have an outstanding traffic warrant. Both suspects were later transported to the Tulare County Adult Pre-Trial Facility where they were booked for Auto Theft, Possession of Stolen Property, Possession & Transportation of Methamphetamine for Sale and Felony Evading. Brown and Gomez were also booked for their outstanding warrants. No injuries or property damage occurred as a result of this incident. The stolen vehicle was recovered and taken to a local tow facility to be returned to the owner.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol Supervisor: Sgt. Chris Jennings