



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
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Message From Chief Jason Salazar: Visalia PD Statement on Captain Luma Fahoum

Today, the Tulare County District Attorney's Office filed criminal charges on Visalia Police Captain, Luma Fahoum, related to allegations of theft and embezzlement from non-profit funds related to the Visalia Police Explorers program.

This announcement follows a multi-month investigation conducted by the Tulare County District Attorney's Office that began at my request. On September 19, 2024, I was made aware of potential criminal activity by Captain Fahoum, from a member of our department. After an initial assessment of that information, I placed Captain Fahoum on administrative leave that same night. The following morning, I contacted the Tulare County District Attorney's Office requesting that they conduct an independent criminal investigation into these allegations. Today's announcement of criminal charges being filed is the culmination of that investigation.

The Visalia Police Department has been, and will continue to be, fully cooperative with the DA's Office throughout this investigation and will continue to do so as the prosecution phase of this matter is just beginning- and we must let that process play out.

Any questions related to the investigation or criminal charges should be directed to the Tulare County District Attorney's Office as this investigation has been handled entirely by their office.

As the Chief, I am heartbroken and disappointed with what led us to today's criminal filing against Captain Fahoum. The captain position is the second highest position in the Visalia Police Department and a position that carries great weight, responsibility, and trust. When something like this occurs, it has a significant impact on the organization, on our community, and to the entire policing profession. Actions like these erode the trust that members of this community have placed in its police department, and that trust is something that we place great value on in policing and in working to serve our community.

To our community, and especially to those who generously invested in our Explorer program to benefit the youth in that program- I am deeply sorry.

Because this matter involves an ongoing personnel issue, I cannot provide any additional information at this time.

I continue to support the men and women of the Visalia Police Department who serve this community and wear this badge with honor. I know they will hold their heads high and we will continue to earn and maintain the trust of those we serve. Thank you.

