



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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Juveniles Crash Stolen Car, One Injured After Gun Discharges While Fleeing

Just after 2:00 p.m., Visalia Police Department officers with the Tulare County Regional Auto Theft Taskforce (TRATT) spotted a stolen vehicle near Walnut Avenue and County Center Drive. When officers attempted a traffic stop, the driver refused to pull over.

Due to safety concerns, officers ended the pursuit. Moments later, the stolen vehicle crashed into another car, and two suspects ran from the scene.

While fleeing, one suspect was running with a loaded handgun when it discharged- striking him with a non-life-threatening injury. The incident was seen by several witnesses and captured on surveillance video. A 16-year-old and 17-year-old were arrested.

After receiving medical clearance, both will be booked at the Tulare County Juvenile Detention Facility on charges including evading police, hit and run, resisting arrest, possession of a stolen vehicle, and negligent discharge of a firearm.

