

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*
May 1, 2025

## **UPDATE:** Driver Runs Stop Sign, Causes Fatal Crash in Visalia

At approximately 5:00 p.m., Visalia Police officers responded to a major injury traffic collision involving three vehicles at the intersection of Burke Street and Kaweah Avenue.

Officers discovered 26-year-old Omar Chavarria was driving eastbound on Kaweah Avenue when he ran a stop sign at Burke Street, striking two other vehicles. After the crash, Chavarria fled the scene on foot but was later located and taken into custody by officers.

One of the drivers involved was transported to the hospital, where she later died from her injuries.

Alcohol is believed to be a factor in the crash. The Visalia Police Department's Traffic Unit responded to the scene and has taken over the investigation. Anyone who has information regarding the collision is encouraged to contact the Visalia PD Traffic Unit at 559-713-4301.

\*\*ORIGINAL RELEASE\*\*

HAPPENING NOW: VPD on Scene of Major Traffic Accident, Avoid the Area

At approximately 5:00 p.m., Visalia Police Department officers responded to a major injury traffic collision at the intersection of Burke Street and Kaweah Avenue.

Please avoid the area, as officers remain on scene.

Road closures are currently in place at Noble & Burke and Myrtle & Burke. We will provide updates as more information becomes available.

