

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Liz Jones, Public Safety Police & Fire PIO, Media & Communications Manager (559) 713-4370 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) Elizabeth.Jones@visalia.city

\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*
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## **Reckless Dirt Bike Stunts Lead to Juvenile Arrest**

Today at approximately 2:32 p.m., a member of the Visalia Police HOPE Team spotted a dirt bike being driven recklessly near Lovers Lane and Norman Avenue. When the rider saw the officer, he started doing wheelies and driving erratically, clearly trying to get a reaction from law enforcement. The officer initiated a traffic stop, but the rider refused to comply and continued operating the dirt bike recklessly. A pursuit followed, ending near St. Johns Parkway and McAuliff Street, where the dirt bike eventually broke down. The rider, a 13-year-old male juvenile, was taken into custody without incident.

Further investigation revealed that he had been involved in a similar reckless riding incident earlier that day on a school campus, where he also attempted to engage with another officer. The juvenile was booked on felony evading and reckless driving charges, and the dirt bike was impounded.

Thankfully, no injuries or property damage occurred during the pursuit.

The Visalia Police Department is dedicated to ensuring public safety and holding individuals accountable for reckless and unlawful behavior. Reckless behavior like this endangers both the rider and the community—and it will not be tolerated.

