



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
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UPDATE: Suspect Arrested After Fatal Assault of Woman at Apartment Complex

At approximately 11:33 a.m., Visalia Police officers responded to a reported hit-and-run traffic accident in the 3200 block of South Lovers Lane. While responding to that location, officers were notified of an assault occurring, north of the collision, at an apartment complex located in the 2800 block of South Lovers Lane. Officers later determined the two incidents were connected.

Detectives determined the suspect first crashed his vehicle and subsequently fled to the apartment complex located in 2800 South Lovers Lane. Upon arriving at the complex, he attempted to enter several apartments by banging on doors. During this time, the victim, a 75-year-old woman, opened her door and was attacked by the suspect. She was stabbed multiple times. The victim was transported to Kaweah Health for medical treatment. Sadly, she died from her injuries.

With the assistance of several brave community members, officers located the suspect at the complex and arrested him at the scene. While taking the suspect into custody, he attempted to force officers into shooting him, but they were able to successfully take him into custody without doing so.

The Visalia Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit and Crime Lab responded to the scene. Video evidence of the incident was recovered and is being reviewed as part of the investigation. The motive for the attack remains under investigation and there is no apparent connection between the suspect and victim. Investigators do not believe there are any other suspects, and there is no further danger to the public.

The victim's name is being withheld pending family notification. The suspect's name is currently being withheld while detectives continue their investigation. He is a 28-year-old male and his identity will be provided as soon as practicable.

This remains an active investigation.

