



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

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

September 15, 2014

VPD Report Number: 14-11191/14-11201

Type of Incident: Burglary & Robbery

Date/Time Occurred: 9/14/14 at 11:51am & 9:00pm

Location: 1200 Block of E. Houston Ave. & 26700 of S. Mooney Blvd.

Name of Business (if applicable):

Valero Gas Station

Kick Stop Liquor

Suspect:

1. Brar, Gurpreet

Age:

26

Arrested:

Yes

Details:

On 9/14/14 at approximately 1151 hours, Officers from the Visalia Police Department were dispatched to the Valero Market, located on E. Houston Ave, regarding a theft of lottery tickets. Upon arrival, it was discovered that a male adult had taken over 70 Lottery tickets and fled in a Dodge Charger. At approximately 2100 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a robbery at the Kwik Stop Liquor Mart on S. Mooney Blvd. Upon their arrival, they learned that a male adult had brandished a black semi-automatic handgun, demanded lottery tickets, and fled the scene. The suspect and vehicle description were similar to the earlier incident.

A short time later, a black Dodge Charger matching the suspect vehicle was observed by an officer from the Visalia Police Department. A traffic stop was conducted and Gurpreet Brar was taken into custody without incident. A search of the vehicle revealed a black pellet gun designed to look like a semi-automatic handgun. It was also determined that Suspect Brar had been cashing-in the stolen lottery tickets at various locations.

Suspect Brar is believed to be responsible for numerous lottery theft crimes throughout Tulare County. The Tulare County Sheriff's Office assisted with the investigation. Contact the Tulare County Sheriff's PIO for information regarding crimes that occurred within their jurisdiction.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/ Violent Crimes Unit

Supervisor: Sgt. O. Dominguez

