



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

November 4, 2014

VPD Report Number: 14-13459

Date/Time Occurred: 11-4-14 / 0700

Type of Incident: Chop Shop

Location: 610 N. Front st., Earlimart

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

1. Angel Esparza
- 2.
- 3.

Age:

25

Arrested:

Yes

Details: On 11-4-14 Investigators from the Tulare County Regional Auto Theft Taskforce (T-RATT) were focusing on areas in the south county due to a recent increase of auto thefts. An investigation led investigators to an address in the town of Earlimart where a chop shop was located. The chop shop contained vehicles and parts from four stolen vehicles from the cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville and Delano. S/Angel Esparza was found to be responsible for the thefts and operating a chop shop. Esparza is a repeat offender and has been convicted of operating a chop shop in the past. Esparza was booked at the Tulare County Pre-Trial Facility on charges of auto theft, possession of stolen property and operating a chop shop.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: T-RATT

Supervisor: Sgt. Tripp

