



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Damon Maurice, Public Information Officer
(559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
dmaurice@ci.visalia.ca.us

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

January 14, 2015

VPD Report Number: 15-00601

Date/Time Occurred: 1/14/15 1245 hours

Type of Incident: Attempt Homicide arrests

Location: 1900 block S. Central

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Marcus Van Thomas
2. Juan Napolean Lopez
- 3.

24
22

yes
yes

Details: On listed date and time, Visalia Police Department officers responded to the Valley Fuel Get N Go in the 1900 block of S. Central Street for a reported shooting that just occurred. Officers were told several males exchanged words in the parking lot when one suspect fired multiple gunshots. No gunshot victims have been located. Officers were told the suspects fled in a vehicle prior to their arrival.

A description of the suspect vehicle was broadcast. A VPD detective located a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle description near Tulare and Court. A traffic stop was conducted at Tulare and Lovers Ln. and both male occupants were detained. After further investigation, both of these males have been arrested for this shooting. This incident appears to be gang related. Both suspects were booked at the Tulare County Pre Trail Facility for attempted homicide, shooting at a dwelling, and conspiracy.

One customer inside the store suffered minor injuries as he ran to escape the gunfire. The customer was transported to a local hospital where he was treated and released. The investigation is continuing. Anyone with information to this incident is asked to call the Visalia Police Department at (559) 734-8117 or Detective J. Cummings at (559) 713-4722.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: VPD Patrol / Violent Crimes Unit

Supervisor: Sgt. D. Maurice

