



# VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Jason Salazar, Chief of Police*

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

**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***

**July 23, 2015**

**VPD Report Number:** 15-10296

**Date/Time Occurred:** 7/23/15 0950 hours

**Type of Incident:**

- Possession of Methamphetamine for Sales
- Transportation of Methamphetamine
- Possession of Heroin for Sales
- Transportation of Heroin
- Possession of Cocaine for Sales
- Conspiracy
- Maintaining a residence where narcotics are sold

**Location:** 21000 block of Avenue 245, Lindsay  
2400 block of N. Oak Park, Visalia

**Name of Business (if applicable):**

**Suspect:**

**Age:**

**Arrested:**

- |                       |    |     |
|-----------------------|----|-----|
| 1. Roberto Mercado    | 23 | Yes |
| 2. Jose Mercado Reyes | 34 | Yes |
| 3.                    |    |     |

**Details:** On 07/23/15 at approximately 0950 hours, officers from the Narcotics Unit, Gang Suppression Unit, Property Crimes and Violent Crimes conducted two traffic stops and served two search warrants as part of a 6 month investigation conducted by the Narcotics Unit regarding the sales of narcotics within the City of Visalia. A vehicle driven by (S) Jose Mercado Reyes was stopped in the area of Mooney and Riggins. A search of his vehicle revealed 3 ounces of methamphetamine and a large sum of currency.

A vehicle driven by (S) Roberto Mercado was stopped in the area of Spruce and Avenue 264 in Lindsay. A search of his vehicle revealed 4 ounces of methamphetamine and 9 grams of heroin. During a search of the residence in the 21000 block of Avenue 245, Lindsay, officers located additional methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine. Officers also located digital scales, packaging material and currency. A search of the residence in the 2400 block of N. Oak Park revealed no additional items of evidence.



The total amount seized during this detail was: 1.8 pounds of heroin; 1.1 pounds of methamphetamine; 19 grams of cocaine; 2 vehicles; and over \$10,000 in currency. The estimated street value of the narcotics is approximately \$40,000.

(S) Roberto Mercado was transported and booked into the Tulare County Jail for: Possession of Methamphetamine for Sales; Transportation of Methamphetamine; Possession of Heroin for Sales; Transportation of Heroin; Possession of Cocaine for Sales; Maintaining a residence where narcotics are sold; and Conspiracy.

(S) Jose Mercado Reyes was transported and booked into the Tulare County Jail for: Possession of Methamphetamine for Sales; Transportation of Methamphetamine; and Conspiracy.

**Arresting / Investigating Officer:** Narcotics Unit

**Supervisor:** R. Epp

