



**VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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

**December 23, 2015**

**VPD Report Number:** 15-17822

**Date/Time Occurred:** December 22, 2015 1425 hours

**Type of Incident:** Homicide

**Location:** 2800 block of W. Ashland

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

**Suspect:**

**Age:**

**Arrested:**

- |                    |    |     |
|--------------------|----|-----|
| 1. Meza, Emmanuel  | 20 | yes |
| 2. Gonzalez, Ruben | 20 | yes |
| 3. Garcia, Ebony   | 28 | yes |

**Details:** Suspect #4 - Ochoa, Joshua - 23 years old - yes (arrested)

On the listed date and time, the Visalia Police Department responded to a residence in the 2800 block of W. Ashland for a report of a stabbing. Upon arrival, officers located 2 males suffering from stab wounds at this residence. Both victims were transported to a local hospital for treatment. Their condition is unknown.

The preliminary investigation revealed an unknown group of individuals confronted a male at the front door of this residence. A fight ensued with two victims from inside the residence being stabbed. The suspects fled the area and have not been located. The investigation is continuing. Anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Mona Whaley at (559) 713-4211 or CrimeStoppers at (559) 498-STOP.

\*\*\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*\*\*

The Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene and took over the investigation. Information was obtained from witnesses that identified the (4) listed suspects as being involved in the incident.



At 1520 Hours, the Gang Suppression Unit was able to locate and detain Suspect Emmanuel Meza, Suspect Ruben Gonzalez and Suspect Ebony Garcia in the 3300 Block of S. Woodland without incident. At 2310 Hours, VC Detectives and GSU officers located Suspect Josh Ochoa at a residence in the 3600 Block of S. Chatham. He was taken into custody without incident.

The investigation showed that a total of (3) victims were injured during the altercation. One victim sustained several superficial injuries and did not require medical treatment. One victim is currently being treated at an area hospital for multiple stab wounds and is listed in stable condition. The third victim was being treated at an area hospital however he died as a result of stab wounds he received from the altercation. His identity is being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The motive is still being investigated however it appears to be gang related.

The (4) suspects were arrested, interviewed and then booked into Tulare County Jail for Homicide, Attempt Homicide, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Conspiracy and Gang Enhancement.

The investigation is still on going. If anyone has information related to this incident, please contact Det. Mona Whaley at (559) 713-4211.

**Arresting / Investigating Officer:** VPD Patrol / Violent Crimes  
Unit/Gang Suppression Unit

**Supervisor:** Sgt. Kroeze

