



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Sergeant Damon Maurice, Public Information Officer
(559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
damon.maurice@visalia.city

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

February 13, 2016

VPD Report Number: 16-02272 & 16-02273

Date/Time Occurred: 02/13/16 at 1554

Type of Incident: Narcotics Sales & Resisting arrest with force of violence

Location: Houston and Mooney

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Mendoza, Ruben
2. Chavez, Marco
- 3.

31
37

Yes
Yes

Details: On 2/13/16 at 1554 hours members of the Visalia Police Departments Special Enforcement Unit conducted a traffic stop in the area of Mooney and Houston in the City of Visalia. Upon contact a male passenger was discovered to have approx. 2 ounces of methamphetamine on his person. As the officer attempted to take him into custody the suspect began to fight the officer and was able to break free. After a moderate foot pursuit the suspect was arrested. The vehicle involved fled the scene once officers began the foot pursuit. The suspect was identified as Ruben Mendoza. S/Mendoza was booked for possession and transportation of narcotics for sales, and resisting arrest with force or violence.

During the foot pursuit a second suspect identified as Marco Chavez believed officers were there for him and began jumping fences. He was contacted by perimeter units and found to have ½ ounce of methamphetamine on his person. He was arrested for possession of narcotics for sales. Both suspects were booked into the Tulare County Pre-trial Facility.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Visalia Police Department Special Enforcement Unit

Supervisor: Sgt. C. Brown

