



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
March 5, 2016

VPD Report Number: 16-03341

Date/Time Occurred: 03/04/2016 @ 2304 Hours

Type of Incident: Kidnapping, Child Endangerment,
Taking a Vehicle without Owner's Consent

Location: 2400 Block of W. Prospect

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Rios, Hector
- 2.
- 3.

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yes

Details: On 3/4/16 @ 2304 Hours, Visalia Police received a call for service regarding a Kidnapping. Officers arrived on scene and determined that a 1 1/2 year old child had been kidnapped by the suspect and he left in the family's vehicle without permission. Immediately, Patrol Officers began searching for the vehicle and child. Visalia Police Volunteers responded to assist in the search. Violent Crimes Detectives were called out to assist with the investigation.

On 3/5/16 @ 0135 Hours, a Patrol Officer located the stolen vehicle in the area of Willis and Harold being driven by the Suspect. When a traffic stop was initiated, the Suspect refused to stop. After a short vehicle pursuit, the Suspect pulled into a commercial parking lot at Dinuba and Riggin. The vehicle crashed into a tree in the parking lot and came to a stop. The Suspect was then taken into custody. The small child was located in the vehicle and was unharmed.

The investigation revealed that the Suspect was an acquaintance of the small child's family and had been staying at their residence for several days. The Suspect left the residence with the child, in the stolen vehicle, without the family's permission or knowledge. The motive for the Suspect taking the child is still being investigated.

The Suspect was interviewed and later booked into the Tulare County Jail for the charges of Kidnapping, Child Endangerment, and Taking a Vehicle without Owner's Consent. The Child was reunited with the family.



Arresting / Investigating Officer: VPD Patrol / Violent Crimes Unit

Supervisor: Sgt. Kroeze

