



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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

April 5, 2017

VPD Report Number: 17-26552

Date/Time Occurred: 4/5/17 1127 hours

Type of Incident: Auto theft arrest

Location: 600 block of N. Encina

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Mariah Ann Chaffin

34

Yes

2.

3.

Details: On the listed date and time, Visalia Police Department officers responded to the 600 block of N. Encina for a report of a female attempting to enter a vehicle which was reported stolen earlier this date. Upon arrival, officers located and arrested suspect Mariah Chaffin for this vehicle theft. Chaffin was handcuffed and secured in the rear of a patrol vehicle.

As officers continued this investigation, Chaffin was able to remove one handcuff and open the rear door to the patrol vehicle. She then entered and drove away in the patrol vehicle. The vehicle was tracked via real time GPS to the area of Jacob and Allen where Chaffin abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. Chaffin was located a short distance away by hiding in the 800 block of N. Jacob. Chaffin was be booked into jail for two counts of auto theft.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: VPD Patrol

Supervisor: D. Maurice S122

