



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
June 22, 2017

VPD Report Number: 17-49903

Date/Time Occurred: 06/22/17 / 0615

Type of Incident: Burglary / Arson - Arrest

Location: 2800 Block W Walnut Ave.

Name of Business (if applicable):

Heart of the Valley Church – 17-49903 June 2017

Woodland Drive Baptist Church – 17-36505 May 2017

Heart of the Valley Church – 17-33214 April 2017

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Christopher Anthony Peterson

28

YES

2.

3.

Details: On 6-22-17 at 0614 Patrol and Fire respond to 2800 W Walnut for a commercial fire. During the investigation, evidence showed the fire was connected to a commercial burglary which occurred at the same time. Video surveillance captured images of the (S) at the time of the crimes.

Follow-up conducted by Police and Fire Arson Investigators pushed out the video stills to Patrol Officers, and Property Crimes Unit Detectives. Officers contacted a subject matching the description at Walnut and Woodland several hours later. The (S) was positively identified by Arson Investigators through evidence linked to the crime on the fresh Burglary and Arson.

Property Crimes Detectives also responded and conducted follow-up on two additional Burglaries, one at Heart of the Valley and one at Woodland Drive Baptist. The (S) was positively linked to these crimes as well. (S) was booked for 3 counts of Commercial Burglary, Arson, and possession of an Incendiary Device.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/Arson/Property Crimes

Supervisor: Sgt. Mark Feller

