



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
March 19, 2021

VPD Report Number: 21-023044

Date/Time Occurred: 3-19-21/ 0033 hrs.

Type of Incident: Att. Homicide on Police Officer

Location: 3800 block of S. Shady

Name of Business (if applicable):

N/A

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Smith, Kirk

35

Yes

2.

Details: On 3-19-21 at approximately 1233 a.m., Officers were called to the 3800 block of S. Shady for a report of a prowler in the area. While officers were enroute to the location, gunshots were reported to dispatchers in the same area as the reported prowler. As officers arrived at the scene, they attempted contact at an apartment believed to belong to the suspected prowler, Kirk Smith. Officers made verbal contact with a male inside the apartment. The individual, later identified as Suspect Kirk Smith, looked through the window, saw the officers outside, and began firing at officers through the front door and adjacent window. Officers did not return fire and were able to take cover. Officers established a perimeter around the location and evacuated nearby residences. The Visalia Police Department SWAT Team was called in to assist and a Crisis Negotiator was able to contact (S)- Smith using a P.A. mounted on the vehicle. After approximately 20 minutes, (S)- Smith opened the door and surrendered to police. He was taken into custody without incident. Detectives later located 2 firearms inside the residence and multiple loaded magazines. (S)- Smith was booked on three counts of attempted homicide on a police officer, as well as various weapons related charges. There were no injuries to officers, the suspect, or surrounding neighbors during this incident.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/V.C./SWAT

Supervisor: Sgt. Mike Short

