



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
June 21, 2021

VPD Report Number: 21-051104

Date/Time Occurred: June 21, 2021, 3:38 pm

Type of Incident: Stolen Ambulance, Pursuit

Location: 700 block E. Noble

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Mariah Chaffin
- 2.

38

Yes

Details: On June 21, 2021, at 3:38 pm, officers were dispatched to assist EMS personnel who were on scene at a Medical Aid call in the 700 block of E. Noble. Before officers arrived, Mariah Chaffin, 38, stole an American Ambulance that was on scene and had been left running. An officer arriving on scene spotted the ambulance as it drove away and attempted a traffic stop. The ambulance, which had its emergency lights and siren activated, failed to stop for the officer and a pursuit ensued. The pursuit entered the downtown Visalia area. At Acequia/Locust, Chaffin rammed the stolen ambulance into a different American Ambulance that was transporting a patient to KHMC. She also struck a VPD marked unit.

Chaffin was taken into custody and transported to KHMC for treatment of injuries sustained in the collision. One VPD officer was also transported to KHMC for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries suffered in the collision.

Chaffin will be booked for Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Pursuit, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, and Resisting Arrest upon receiving a jail clearance from KHMC.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/Property Crimes

Supervisor: Sgt. M. Verissimo S36



