



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

September 28, 2021

VPD Report Number: 21-075112

Date/Time Occurred: 9/7/2021 2116 hours

Type of Incident: Homicide

Location: 2500 blk. W. Hemlock

Name of Business (if applicable):

N/A

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

- 1. Williams, Derek
- 2. Navarro, Elissa
- 3. Munoz, Rocky Patrick
- 4. Balderas, Freddy

35
31
40
35

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Details: On September 7, 2021, at 9:16 p.m., Visalia Police Department responded to an assault with a deadly weapon in the 2500 block of W. Hemlock. The victim was transported to Kaweah Health and the scene was turned over to the Violent Crimes Unit. Anyone with any information is asked to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 559-713-4738.

******UPDATE******

The victim in this case was transported to Kaweah Health Medical Facility where he was pronounced deceased. This case has now been reclassified as a homicide investigation.

The victim has been identified as Dominic Harris, 38 years of age.

The Violent Crimes Unit is actively working the case and anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Andrew Saelee at (559) 713-4576. Individuals wishing to remain anonymous can call the Anonymous Tip-Line at (559) 713-4738.



****UPDATE****

On 9-11-21 at approximately 2:30 p.m., Visalia Police Department Violent Crimes Detectives, along with CDCR's Fugitive Apprehension Team, responded to the City of Taft based on investigative leads that Derek Williams (35) and his girlfriend, Elissa Navarro (31), were attempting to avoid investigators by hiding in the Taft area.

With the assistance of the Taft Police Department, Williams and Navarro were located at a hotel in the City of Taft. Williams and Navarro were taken into custody without incident.

Williams was booked for homicide, conspiracy, and a parole hold. Navarro was booked for aiding Williams in avoiding capture following the crime and four outstanding warrants.

This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this case is still urged to contact Detective Andrew Saelee at (559) 713-4576 or the Anonymous Tip-Line at (559) 713-4738.

****UPDATE****

Visalia Police Department Violent Crimes Detectives developed information that Rocky Patrick Munoz (40) was involved in the homicide that occurred on 9-7-2021. An arrest warrant for suspect Munoz was subsequently issued. On 9-15-2021 at approximately 1:00 a.m., Patrol Officers were monitoring a residence in the 3700 block of S. County Center that was known to be associated with suspect Munoz. At this time, they observed a male subject in the front yard of the residence matching suspect Munoz's description. Officers were able to visually identify suspect Rocky Patrick Munoz as the individual in the front yard. Officers converged on the location and were able to take Rocky Munoz into custody without incident.

Violent Crimes Detectives were called out to take over the investigation and suspect Munoz was later booked into the Tulare County Pre-Trial facility on homicide and conspiracy charges.

This investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information related to this case is urged to contact Detective Andrew Saelee at (559) 713-4576. Those individuals wishing to remain anonymous can contact the Anonymous Tip-Line at (559) 713-4738.

****UPDATE****

On 9-27-21 at approximately 10:40 p.m. officers with the Visalia Police Department developed information that the final suspect wanted in connection with this homicide, Freddy Balderas (35), was at a residence in the 200 block of W. Grove. Detectives with the Violent Crimes Unit, Special Enforcement Unit, Narcotics Unit, and Officers from the Patrol Division set-up surveillance on the location. Suspect Balderas was contacted outside the residence and was taken into custody without incident. A search warrant was written for the residence and a firearm was located. It is not known at this time if it was the firearm used in the homicide. Suspect Balderas was booked at the Tulare County Pre-Trial Facility on homicide and conspiracy charges. It is not believed that there are any further suspects outstanding in this investigation.

If anyone has any additional information, they are asked to contact Detective Andrew Saelee at (559) 713-4576.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/Violent Crimes

Supervisor: Sgt. Mike Short

