



# VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Jason Salazar, Chief of Police*

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**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***  
**November 8, 2021**

**VPD Report Number:** 21-092659, 21-092673,  
21-092704, 21-092774, 21-092782

**Date/Time Occurred:** 11/07/2021 0911 hours, 1030  
hours, 1337 hours

**Type of Incident:**  
Shooting at an Occupied Dwelling/Assault with a  
Deadly Weapon/Kidnapping/Failure to Yield/ Felony  
Hit and Run

**Location:** 1000 blk S. Noyes

**Name of Business (if applicable):**

**Suspect:**

1. Galaz, Elijah
- 2.

**Age:**

22

**Arrested:**

Yes

**Details:** 11-7-21, 0911, 1030, and 1337 hrs, officers responded to the area of Noyes and Laurel regarding 3 separate calls for shots fired in the area. During these incidents, officers located 2 vehicles in the area which appeared to be struck by gunfire. There were no injuries in the shootings. Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact the Visalia Police Department.

\*\*\*Update\*\*\*

After conducting several interviews, officers were able to identify Elijah Galaz as the suspect in the shootings. The Violent Crimes Unit took over the investigation and learned that Galaz and the victim had a prior dating relationship. Galaz became upset after learning that the victim was in a new dating relationship and discharged a firearm into her new partners residence.

On 11/07/2021, the Violent Crimes Unit obtained an arrest warrant for Elijah Galaz.

As detectives searched for Galaz, the victim called the Visalia Police Department reporting that Galaz was outside her residence. The Violent Crimes Unit learned that Galaz arrived at the victim's residence and forced her into a vehicle at gunpoint.



Detectives were able to locate Galaz driving a white truck at the intersection of Hall and Houston. Officers initiated a traffic stop but Galaz failed to yield. After a short vehicle pursuit, officers lost sight of Galaz's vehicle at the intersection of Encina and Oak. The Tulare County Sheriff's Office assisted in the search of Galaz.

After learning that Galaz was possibly in the City of Tulare, the Violent Crimes Unit requested the assistance of the Tulare Police Department. Violent Crimes Detectives were able to locate Galaz in the 1400 block of Westminister, in Tulare. The Tulare Police Department initiated a traffic stop but Galaz again failed to yield. A vehicle pursuit was initiated and concluded after Galaz collided with a parked vehicle in the 200 block of Colorado Ave. After colliding with the parked vehicle, Galaz fled the scene on foot. He was located by a Tulare Police Department K-9 Unit and arrested without further incident.

The victim was located and suffered minor injuries from the traffic collision.

Galaz was booked the Tulare County Pre-Trial Facility for Shooting at an Occupied Dwelling, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Kidnapping, Failure to Yield, and Felony Hit and Run.

**Arresting / Investigating Officer:** Patrol/Violent Crimes/Tulare  
County Sheriff's Office/ Tulare Police Department

**Supervisor:** Agent Henry Martinez

