



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
February 27, 2022

VPD Report Number: 22-016039

Date/Time Occurred: February 27, 2022 at 3:41 P.M.

Type of Incident: Attempted Murder

Location: City of Visalia

Name of Business (if applicable):

N/A

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Jose Luis Romero

41

Yes

2.

Details: This afternoon at approximately 3:41 p.m. the Visalia Police Department received a report of a fight in progress in the area of Houston Ave and N. Mooney Blvd. Upon arrival, officers located an adult male victim suffering from significant injuries. During the subsequent investigation officers obtained a possible description of the suspect's vehicle. At approximately 3:50 p.m. a hit and run traffic collision was reported at N. Mooney Blvd and Ferguson Ave involving that same vehicle. Following that collision, the Visalia Police Department began receiving numerous calls for service involving the same suspect vehicle. Among those calls was 2 additional hit and run collisions with injuries, one at Court Street and Houston Ave and the other at Dinuba Blvd. and Ferguson Ave.

The involved vehicle ultimately became disabled near Court Street and Race Ave where the suspect fled on foot. The suspect was apprehended near Ash Street and NE 1st Ave as he attempted to carjack an additional victim. The subsequent investigation revealed that during the initial incident the suspect attacked the victim, and ultimately left in his vehicle. That victim has been transported to an area hospital where he is in critical condition. The suspect in this case has been identified as Jose Luis Romero (41) of Earlimart. S/ Romeo was ultimately transported and booked into the Tulare County Adult Pretrial Facility for attempted murder, carjacking, attempted car jackings, and multiple felony hit and run traffic collisions.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol and Violent Crimes Unit

Supervisor: Sgt. Curtis Brown



