



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
March 6, 2022

VPD Report Number: 22-018004, 22-018006

Date/Time Occurred: 3/5/2022 1959-2004 hours

Type of Incident: Attempted Murder & Attempted Robbery

Location: 800 Block of N. West & 1600 Block of N. Elm, Visalia.

Name of Business (if applicable):

N/A

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Virginia Ramirez Mendoza
2. Francisco Loya Hernandez

44
37

Yes
Yes

Details:

On 3/5/2022, at approximately 1959 hours, Visalia Police Department responded to a shooting that had just occurred in the 800 block of N. West Street in the city of Visalia. Investigation revealed that Virginia Mendoza produced a handgun and shot a female victim. An additional male victim attempted to intervene and was struck with a handgun by Francisco Hernandez. Hernandez then shot at the male victim, grazing the side of his head. Both suspects then fled the scene in a vehicle. Both victims are currently stable and receiving treatment at Kaweah Health Medical Center.

On 3/5/2022, at 2004 hours, the same suspects contacted a male victim driving in the 1600 block of N. Elm Street. Mendoza opened the door to the victim's vehicle and demanded his wallet and phone. The victim attempted to run away but was shot. The Visalia Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit was called out to take over the investigation. Both suspects were identified, and warrants were issued for their arrest. The victim from this incident is currently stable and being treated at Kaweah Health Medical Center.

On 3/6/2022, at approximately 0730 hours, officers with the Kerman Police Department contacted two subjects sleeping in a vehicle in the city of Kerman. Those two subjects were identified as Mendoza and Hernandez. Both were taken into custody for the incident that occurred in the city of Visalia as well as additional charges related to the possession of firearms and ammunition. They were booked in Fresno County Jail.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol/Violent Crimes/Kerman PD. **Supervisor:** Sgt. Dustin Marvin

