



# VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Jason Salazar, Chief of Police*

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\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

June 14, 2022

**VPD Report Number:** 22-049800

**Date/Time Occurred:** 06/14/22 – 0335 hours

**Type of Incident:** Felony Reckless Evading  
Felon in Possession of a Firearm  
Possession of a Stolen Firearm

**Location:** 2700 Blk S Tracy St.

**Suspect:**

**Age:**

**Arrested:**

1. Juarez, Esteve

37

Yes

**Details:**

On 6-14-22 at approximately 3:35 a.m., a Visalia Police Department Patrol Officer attempted a traffic stop near the intersection of Court St and Caldwell Ave. The driver, later identified as Esteve Juarez, 37, failed to yield to the officer's lights and siren and continued to the intersection of Ben Maddox Way and Caldwell Ave where the driver yielded briefly. Upon the officer approaching the vehicle, Juarez accelerated and again failed to yield to the officer attempting the traffic stop. Juarez drove to the 2700 Blk of S Tracy St where he attempted to drive his vehicle into an open garage and close the garage door on the pursuing officer. The officer was able to stop the garage door from closing and detained Juarez.

A loaded 9mm semi-automatic handgun was located in the vehicle. Juarez is prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm. Additional investigation led to the discovery of an additional semi-automatic handgun in Juarez's possession as well as an SKS semi-automatic rifle. A record check on the rifle showed that it was stolen. Juarez was taken into custody for felony evading, felon in possession of a firearm, and possession of a stolen firearm. He was transported and booked at the Tulare County Pretrial Facility.

**Arresting / Investigating Officer:** Patrol

**Supervisor:** Sergeant Dustin Marvin

