



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Sergeant Art Alvarez, Public Information Officer
(559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
art.alvarez@visalia.city

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

February 28, 2023

VPD Report Number: 23-016867

Type of Incident: Felony Evading

Date/Time Occurred: 2/28/23 / 0115 Hours

Location: N Willis St & W Grove Ave

Suspect:

1. Steven Escalera

Age:

35

Arrested:

Yes

Details:

On 02/28/23, at 0115 hours, an officer with the Visalia Police Department attempted a traffic stop on a vehicle at the intersection of N. Willis St. and W. Grove Ave. The vehicle was being operated without the headlights activated. The vehicle failed to yield to the officer's lights and sirens. A short pursuit ensued and was quickly terminated due to the reckless driving of the motorist. Once the pursuit was terminated, the vehicle slowed and was observed circling the area of the 800 Blk of N. Conyer St. Officers saturated the area.

On the 900 Blk of N. Conyer St., the motorist drove into the path of a responding officer. The officer was forced to maneuver his vehicle to avoid a collision. The suspect vehicle then came to a stop on the 800 Blk of N. Conyer St. The driver, later identified as Steven Escalera (35), exited the vehicle, and fled inside a residence. An officer followed and Escalera was taken into custody inside. Escalera was found to be in possession of approximately 2.5 ounces of suspected methamphetamine. He was transported to Tulare County Pretrial Facility and booked on three felony warrants and one misdemeanor warrant. Escalera's fresh charges from this incident include felony evading, attempted assault on a peace officer, resisting arrest, and possession of a controlled substance for sales.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Patrol

Supervisor: Sergeant Dustin Marvin

