



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Elizabeth Jones, P.I.O./Media and Communications Manager
(559) 713-4370 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
elizabeth.jones@visalia.city

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

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19-Year-Old Arrested for String of Armed Robberies

On August 4, 2023, at 7:59 p.m., VPD officers responded to the 1900 block of South Lovers Lane for a report of a robbery. Officers learned that a man had entered the Shell Gas Station with his face covered. The suspect was armed with a machete and demanded money from the clerk at the register. He fled after taking the money.

Around 7:18 p.m. yesterday, VPD officers responded to the 500 block of South Lovers Lane for a report of a robbery. Officers were told that a man entered the store with his face covered. The suspect was armed with a hammer and demanded the clerk to give him all the money from the register. He fled after taking the money.

Later in the evening around 9:00 p.m., HOPE Unit officers were patrolling in the area of Tulare Avenue and Burke Street, when they noticed a man matching the description of the robbery suspect. Officers attempted to contact him, but he ran away. While searching for the suspect, officers were informed a second robbery had just occurred in the 400 block of East Tulare Avenue.

Officers along with the K9 and drone unit continued to search for the suspect. 19-Year-Old Johnny Kosobud was found and taken into custody. During the investigation, it was found that Kosobud was responsible for each of the robberies.

Kosobud was transported and booked at the Tulare County Pretrial Facility.

