



## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***  
**October 22, 2023**

### 21-Year-Old Gang Member Arrested for Early Morning Armed Robbery

Around 5:20 this morning, VPD officers were called to the 7-11 on West Walnut Street for a report of an armed robbery that had just occurred.

When officers arrived, they learned that a man had entered the business, threatened the store clerk with a knife and demanded money from the cash register.

Officers were told the store clerk opened the cash register for the suspect. As the suspect was taking the money, he dropped the knife. The clerk and suspect began fighting over the knife. Unfortunately, the suspect physically assaulted the clerk and fled the scene with the money.

The clerk was treated for minor injuries.

After reviewing video surveillance, officers identified the suspect as 21-year-old Isaiah Ortega, who is a known and documented Norteño street gang member. Violent Crimes Detectives were contacted to assist with the investigation.

At 7:15 a.m., patrol officers found and arrested Ortega leaving his home. Evidence of the crime was found on Ortega.

Detectives conducted a search warrant at the suspect's home and found additional evidence, linking him to the armed robbery and assault.

Ortega was transported and booked into the Tulare County Adult Pre-Trial Facility for robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

