



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Salazar, Chief of Police

Liz Jones, Public Safety Police & Fire PIO,
Media & Communications Manager
(559) 713-4370 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
Elizabeth.Jones@visalia.city

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

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HAPPENING OVERNIGHT: Suspected DUI Driver Dies after Fleeing Traffic Stop

Just after 11:00 p.m., a Visalia PD patrol officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Whitendale Avenue and Chinowth Street for a red-light violation.

The vehicle pulled over and the officer contacted the driver, 39-year-old Jeremiah Gibson. Gibson was suspected of driving under the influence and was on DUI probation.

As the officer was at the driver's door, Gibson drove off at a high rate of speed westbound on Whitendale Avenue. As the officer was attempting to catch up to Gibson, Gibson lost control of his vehicle on Whitendale Avenue, west of Akers Street. He drove off the roadway and crashed into a tree.

Gibson was pinned in. The Visalia Fire Department and EMS responded to the scene and extracted Gibson from his vehicle. CPR was immediately administered.

Gibson was transported to Kaweah Health Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased.

