



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Downtown Trash Bin Arsonist to Serve Prison Time

In late 2023, the Visalia Police Department noticed an increase in trash bin fires in the downtown area during nighttime hours. Between November 1st and December 13th, 2023, the Visalia Fire Department and Visalia PD responded to a total of 24 trash bin fires downtown.

On December 15th, 2023, officers from the patrol division conducted undercover surveillance and caught 40-year-old Carlos Otero Parra in the act of setting another trash bin on fire at a location where two recent fires had occurred. On April 12th, 2024, Parra pleaded no contest to three counts of arson of property.

As a result, he will receive a third strike, serve a sentence of three years and four months in prison, and be required to register as an arson offender.

