



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
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Visalia Man Arrested After Firing Shots and Fleeing from Officers

Just before 8:45 p.m., Visalia PD officers responded to a report of a man with a gun in the 900 block of North Rinaldi Street. As officers were on their way, they were informed that the suspect had fired shots. When they arrived, the suspect had already fled the scene.

Using a drone, officers quickly located 33-year-old Joel Martinez hiding in a nearby backyard. He surrendered without incident and was taken into custody.

Thankfully, no one was injured during this incident.

Martinez was booked on several charges, including:

- Assault with a Deadly Weapon (245 PC): Attacking someone with a weapon that could cause serious injury.
- Discharging a Firearm in a Negligent Manner (246.3 PC): Firing a gun in a way that could endanger others.
- Brandishing a Firearm (417 PC): Threatening or showing a firearm to others in a threatening manner.
- Child Endangerment (273(a) PC): Placing a child at risk of harm.
- Resisting Arrest (148 PC): Interfering with law enforcement officers during an arrest.

