

PRESSRELEASE

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Calvin D. Minor

Chief of Police



For Immediate Release:

Date: August 9, 2014

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"Robbery Suspect Apprehended after Foot Chase"

On August 8, 2014, at 11:10 pm, members Coalinga Police Department responded to the 200 block of Walnut Street on a report of a robbery.

Upon arrival, officers contacted a 17 year old victim, who reported to police that he was confronted and surrounded by three Hispanic males as he was walking to his home in the area. One of the three males forcefully demanded that the victim give them his San Francisco 49er hat. Fearing for his safety, the victim gave the suspect's his hat. The three fled the scene on foot.

As officers were canvassing the area, they spotted a Hispanic male matching the description given by the victim in a field near the 700 block of East Elm Avenue. The male was identified by police as 25 year old Coalinga Resident Fernando Chavez, who resides in the area. At the time he was spotted by police, Chavez was carrying a San Francisco 49er hat. When ordered to stop, Chavez fled, running through a field in the area.

After a brief chase, Chavez was taken into custody without incident. Chavez was positively identified as the primary suspect by the victim.

In addition to robbery, Chavez was booked into the Fresno County main jail on additional charges of Public Intoxication and Delaying a Peace Officer in the Performance of His or Her Duties.

Chavez is also the primary suspect in a series of vehicle tire slashings that occurred on Walnut Street moments prior to the robbery.

Police are asking for the public's assistance in identifying the two remaining suspects in the robbery and tire slashing cases. Anyone with information is asked to call Officer Miguel Gomez at (559) 935-1525.

"All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law"

