



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
May 16, 2013

VPD Report Number: 13-05855

Date/Time Occurred: May 16th, 2013 at 1:15 PM

Type of Incident: Attempt Murder on a Peace Officer

Location: N. Stover Street/ E. Douglas Avenue

Name of Business (if applicable):

Suspect:

Age:

Arrested:

1. Avilez, Luis

25

Yes

2. Marquez, Phillip

18

Yes

3.

Details: On May 16th, 2013 at approximately 1:15 PM, officers from the Visalia Police Department's Gang Suppression Unit observed two suspicious subjects near a vehicle on the 1200 block of N. Cain St. Upon contact, one subject (Suspect Marquez) complied with the officers instructions and was detained. The second suspect (Suspect Avilez) ran from officers and proceeded to jump fences and run through several backyards in the residential neighborhood. Officers chased (S)Avilez and ultimately located him inside a residence. The suspect then fired multiple rounds and struck two officers - a third officer was not injured. The officers returned fire and shot (S)Avilez.

The two injured officers and the suspect were transported to Kaweah Delta Medical Center for treatment of their injuries. The updated condition of the officers is as follows. The officer that suffered a shoulder injury has been treated and released from the hospital. The officer that was struck in the upper torso was rushed to surgery; he is in serious-but-stable condition following a successful surgical procedure. He will remain in the hospital.

Suspect Marquez was taken into custody and booked on a warrant. Suspect Avilez has been charged with three counts of Attempt Murder on a Peace Officer. (S) Avilez is currently receiving treatment in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit. The Tulare County Sheriff's office is conducting an investigation into the shooting.

Arresting / Investigating Officer: Violent Crimes Unit/TCSO

Supervisor: Sgt. Byerlee

