



*Tulare County*

**SHERIFF**

*Proudly Serving Since 1852*

Office of  
**MIKE BOUDREAUX**  
Sheriff-Coroner  
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## **Agricultural Crimes Unit Informational Bulletin**

September 4, 2017 – September 17, 2017

### **Recoveries**

#### **17-11273: Blackstone and Paige Avenue, Tulare**

##### **SmartWater CSI – Recovery**

09-14-2017, Deputies were sent to the area regarding an attempted theft of railroad train air horns from a train belonging to Union Pacific Railroad. UPR Officer Souza observed two suspect(s) near the train wearing clown masks, and another subject in a white truck. The suspect(s) appeared to be attempting to remove the train air horn with a handheld grinder. UPR assistants and Tulare Police Department were called for assistance. Suspect (1) was seen on the train attempting to remove the horn, then found hiding, and taken into custody. Suspect (2) was seen driving away in a white truck and taken into custody. Suspect (3) avoided capture, taking the masks.

Recently UPR Officer Souza and TCSO Ag Detective Jones had sprayed the horns with SmartWater due to several prior theft attempts of the horns valued at \$1,000.00 each. UPR Officer Souza utilized the SmartWater flashlight on suspect (1) and he was observed to be covered on his face, neck, hands, and clothing with the SmartWater dye. Suspect (2) was driving the truck, and the inside of the truck bed and the trailer hitch had the SmartWater dye. Both suspect(s) were taken to the Adult Pre-Trial for booking, and interviewed by Ag Detective Nicholson who also observed the SmartWater on suspect (1). Taken into custody was Justin Lira and Andrew Donaldson. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact Det. John Nicholson at 559-735-1853 or [JNicholson@co.tulare.ca.us](mailto:JNicholson@co.tulare.ca.us).

#### **17-11299: Road 80 and Avenue 360, Dinuba**

##### **Arrest for Animal Cruelty**

09/15/2017, Deputies responded to the location for a report of animal cruelty. The reporting party advised several cows in the animal hospital corral were found to be bleeding from the tips of the utters, which is abnormal, and brought suspicion the animals were being abused. The RP advised bleeding from the tips of utters would be caused by trauma. The cows had blood in their milk and were being treated. Surveillance videos were checked and it was found an employee had struck the cows multiple times with a wooden stick on different areas of the cow's bodies. The suspect was also found hanging from the tail of one cow while in the stall for milking.

The suspect, Cuberto De La Cruz, was relieved from his job by the reporting party, taken into custody and interviewed by the deputy, then taken to Adult Pre-Trial where he was booked for animal cruelty, PC 597.

### North County Activity

#### **Cutler-Orosi/Dinuba area:**

##### **17-11083: Millwood Drive and Avenue 376, Woodlake**

On 09/11/2017, Deputies responded to the area for reported theft of batteries. The reporting party stated between 09/09/2017 and 09/11/2017, unknown suspect(s) removed (6) "Group 31" Napa batteries from diesel trucks, and (1) Cobra 29 CB radio. The estimated loss was \$1,560.00. A green model Toyota Corolla with black wheels had been seen in the area near the trucks. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact Det. Joe Armstrong at 559-735-1853, or [JArmstrong@co.tulare.ca.us](mailto:JArmstrong@co.tulare.ca.us).

#### **Headquarters (Visalia/Tulare/Exeter) area:**

*There are no crimes to report in this area.*

#### **Visalia Substation area:**

*There are no crimes to report in this area.*

### South County Activity:

#### **Porterville Substation area:**

##### **17-11014: Road 216 and Avenue 256, Lindsay**

On 09/09/2017, Deputies responded to the area for a reported theft of olives. The reporting party advised between 09/07/17 and 09/09/2017, unknown suspect(s) entered the olive orchard and picked olives from multiple trees. The RP believes approximately (75) 5-gallon buckets were picked from the trees, with an approximate loss worth \$1,300.00. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact Ag detectives at 559-735-1853, or at **1-800-808-0488; Tip Now Line: (559) 725-4194, or by e-mail [tcsso@tipnow.com](mailto:tcsso@tipnow.com).**

##### **17-11017: Road 214 and Avenue 245, Lindsay**

On 09/09/2017, Deputies responded to the area for reported theft of olives. The reporting party noticed trees had been partially picked of olives, and another orchard nearby had also reported stolen olives. It was estimated that approximately (15) 5-gallon buckets of olives had been picked from the trees. Estimated loss was \$350.00. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact Ag detectives at 559-735-1853, or at **1-800-808-0488; Tip Now Line: (559) 725-4194, or by e-mail [tcsso@tipnow.com](mailto:tcsso@tipnow.com).**

**17-11329: Hershey Ranch and Deer Creek Road, near Hot Springs**

09/16/17, Deputies were dispatched to this area for a reported theft of tools. The reporting party advised unknown suspect(s) entered the property between 09/09/17 and 09/16/17, and stole several small hand tools from various locations from the property. The suspect(s) attempted to enter an outbuilding, but they were unsuccessful, and also attempted to steal a Kawasaki Mule, but were unsuccessful as well. The estimated value of tools stolen was \$175.00, and damages to property estimated at \$330.00. Two sets of shoe tracks were located, and other miscellaneous items were located suspected of being used in the theft and attempted thefts. The shoe tracks were followed towards the California Hot Springs area. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact AG Crimes detectives at 559-735-1853, or **1-800-808-0488, Tip Now Line: (559) 725-4194, or by e-mail [tcsso@tipnow.com](mailto:tcsso@tipnow.com)**.

**Pixley Substation area:**

*There are no crimes to report in this area.*

**Tulare County Sheriff's Office**

**Agricultural Crimes Unit**

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**Fax #559-737-4620**

**Dispatch #559-733-6218**

**1-800-808-0488**

**Tip Now Line: (559) 725-4194, or by e-mail [tcsso@tipnow.com](mailto:tcsso@tipnow.com)**

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Sergeant Chad Rhyman

Detective Kenny Jones

Detective Randy Gunderman

Detective Joseph Armstrong

Detective John Nicholson

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North Co. Cattle & Citrus Liaison

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