

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

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"Surveillance Video Leads to Commercial Burglary Arrest"

On August 2, 2013, Coalinga Police Officers responded to the local Fastrip Gas Station on a report of a commercial burglary involving a suspect who fled the scene.

While at the scene, Officers learned that a male adult entered the business, took store property and fled the scene without paying for the items.

Investigating Officers were able to positively identify the suspect as 26 year old Coalinga transient Michael Stewart, after reviewing the store's extensive video surveillance system. A warrantless arrest declaration was issued for Stewart's arrest based on his history, witness statements and surveillance video.

On August 3, 2013, Coalinga Police Officers located Michael Stewart at Olsen Park in Coalinga at which time he was taken into custody without incident.

Stewart was transported to the Coalinga Police Department for pre-processing. Stewart was later transported to the Fresno County Main Jail where he was booked into custody on charges of commercial burglary, with an added enhancement of committing a felony while out on his own recognizance related to a prior felony arrest.

It should be noted that Stewart is well known to members of the Coalinga Police Department. He was recently arrested on July 21, 2013 for two unrelated burglary cases. Stewart is also considered to be a suspect in several other active investigations involving property crimes. Further charges in the unrelated cases are forthcoming.

The Coalinga Police Department would like to take the opportunity to remind residents to report any suspicious activity by calling the Department's Communications Center at (559) 935-1525. Callers can remain anonymous if desired.

The Coalinga Police Department would also like to remind residents that many local businesses are equipped with extensive video surveillance systems and those who commit crimes will be apprehended and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

"All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law"



Michael Stewart