

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

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TWO ARRESTED FOR PARENTAL ABDUCTION

On Thursday April 9, 2015 at approximately 11:25 pm., Officers responded to the 1700 block of Echo Canyon Avenue, on the report of a possible kidnapping. Upon the officers arrival they learned from the custodial grandparent, that his two grandsons aged 15 and 13 years of age were missing and that the window screen to their bedroom was pushed out.

The grandfather feared that the boys were taken to North Carolina by their father identified as 36 year old David Mahala, who was just released from prison in February. The grandfather stated he received a Face book message from his grandson's mother a week ago asking when they were going to allow them to visit her in North Carolina.

Officers contacted one of the brothers friends who stated that his friends father was driving to Coalinga and that he was going to pick them up. Officers immediately contacted the two juveniles cell phone provider and had them pinged their phones, which showed them travel east on Interstate 40. Through the assistance of the Ash County Sheriff's Department in North Carolina, Coalinga Officers made contact with the boy's mother. She advised that the boy's father and his step father had driven to Coalinga and picked the boys up. Officers advised the mother to contact Mahala and advise him to stop at the closet law enforcement agency and turn himself in.

This morning the Coalinga Police Department was contacted by the Arizona Department of Public Safety that they had located the vehicle just outside of Flagstaff Arizona, and had taken Mahala and his step-father Harold Hurley into custody and that the brothers

were in good condition.

The Coalinga Police Department is working with Arizona authorities to arrange the return of the juveniles to Coalinga. The Fresno County District Attorneys' Office is assisting the Department on the extradition of the Suspects from Arizona back to Fresno County.

Subjects listed in this press release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

