

Coalinga Police Department 2022

ANNUAL REPORT



By Police Chief Jose V. Garza

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Coalinga Police Department

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to maintain peace and order through the provision of police services that are of the highest quality and responsive to the needs of the community. We will contribute to the safety and security of the community by apprehending those who commit criminal acts, by developing partnerships to prevent, reduce, or eliminate neighborhood problems by providing police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals.

VALUES STATEMENT

Dedication to timely, excellent, and efficient service to the community.

Honest and ethical behavior by the members of this agency.

Having the upmost integrity and professionalism for the position in which we hold.

Using innovative, creative, and proactive approaches in meeting the demands of crime prevention and law enforcement responsibilities.

Engaging in strategic and future planning and to keep abreast of the latest in law enforcement technology and techniques.

Sensitivity is the key quality that we should bring to our interaction with the public and other agencies in the criminal justice system with whom we interact with.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Greetings Coalinga Citizens, Leaders, and Business Owners, I can't believe it has been a year since I was sworn in as your Police Chief on February 28, 2022. It has been an honor and privilege serving the citizens of Coalinga and leading the men and women of the Coalinga Police Department (CPD). This past year, I have had the opportunity to attend numerous community events and church services, and each time I received a genuine warm welcome from everyone.

This past year, I have learned a lot about Coalinga citizens but one thing that stands out is they care about their community, in fact, they love their community and support their Police Department. As your Police Chief, having community support is critical in accomplishing our goals for the City of Coalinga. Although we did have several challenges to overcome in 2022, such as staffing shortages, and increase in violent crimes, we ended 2022 in a positive direction to work on for 2023. The positive direction includes implementing problem solving strategies, using technology to reduce crime, and enhancing community trust and partnerships (See State of the Department).

Citizens of Coalinga, through these partnerships, we can strengthen and protect our community where our children live, play, and go to school. I have no doubt, by working together as a community, you will have a Police Department you can trust and be proud of. Thank you for your continued guidance and support.

Respectfully,

Jose V. Garza
Chief of Police

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT

On January 28, 2022, I had the unique opportunity to serve as your Interim Police Chief, while at the same time going through the application process for the new Police Chief position. As the Interim Police Chief, it allowed me to assess the challenges the Department was facing, such as staffing shortages, maintaining shift coverages, low morale, and stagnation, along with having an increase in gang violence. This led to the development of a 100-day assessment plan that incorporated the following overarching goals: lead and build the department, reduce crime, and build community trust. From day one, when I was appointed your Police Chief, on February 28, 2022, I implemented the assessment plan. This plan included meetings with each employee to listen to their needs, concerns, and expectations. Simultaneously, I also met and started to develop relationships with City leaders, department heads, community stakeholders, and residents. Through these meetings, I obtained a greater understanding of the Department's strengths, areas of improvement, crime issues impacting the City, and budget objectives that needed to be accomplished in FY 2022. Below I have highlighted a few of our accomplishments during FY 2022, under the three overarching goals.

Goal 1: Lead and Build the Department

The Coalinga Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency conducting operations 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Police Department provides primary 911 Police Dispatch responsibilities for the City of Coalinga and the City of Parlier. The Police Department is divided into two Divisions- Support Services and Operations. Support Services Division consist of 911 dispatch center, records, training, holding facility, fleet services, and scheduling. The Operations Division consist of patrol, investigations, field training, reserves, auditing cannabis facilities, animal control, and property and evidence.

The adopted annual budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 was \$3,928,399, which funded 20 sworn officers and 9 non-sworn civilians, however, we were challenged in filling the allocated sworn officers' positions. The Coalinga Police Department, like other law enforcement agencies throughout country, faced the challenges of recruiting and hiring sworn officers.

When I first started, we had 13 sworn officers and in May 2022, we lost our K-9 handler and his K-9 Eli to another agency, which decreased sworn officers temporarily to 12 sworn officers. This didn't include 2 sponsored cadets attending the basic police academy, which added up to 6 vacancies that needed to be filled. These staff shortages made it challenging to maintain shift coverages, which added stress to the organization in providing quality, and timely services, along with reducing our efforts in fighting crime. These challenges contributed to the increase in crime in 2022, specifically Part 1 Crimes, of the Uniform Crime Report (UCR), which showed a significant increase in robberies and assaults (See Part 1 Crimes Chart).

Accomplishments: These challenges soon changed in the positive direction with the strong advocacy of the City Manager Marissa Trejo and the support of the Coalinga City Council. Council adopted a pay increase with benefits for CPD officers, which were added to the new FY2022/2023 budget. In addition, to attract candidates to apply for the sworn officers' vacancies, Council approved 5 new electric/gas Toyota Prius for officers living outside the City to commute to work from home. As of December 31, 2022, we have 21 sworn officers, including one College Campus Officer fully funded by West Hills Community College District.

Being fully staffed, allowed each of the four patrol shifts to have a sergeant, corporal, and two officers protecting and serving the City of Coalinga. Once the 9 new officers were off the training program and working solo, we started to have a positive impact in responding timely to Calls for Services (CFS), and fighting crime, along with engaging more with the community, especially at events.

Goal 2: Reduce Crime

In 2022, the City of Coalinga experienced an increase in gang violence, drug sales, drug possessions, and thefts. By the end of 2022, Part 1 Crimes increased by 17%, which meant we had 47 more people victimized in our City, compared to 2021. **Accomplishments:** These increases lead to the implementation of specific strategies, partnerships, and technology to enhance our efforts in targeting criminals preying on our citizens. For example, I am a strong proponent of Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) and a strategy called SARA Model (Scan, Analyze, Respond, and Assess). To enhance my officers' problem-solving skills, I provided additional training to understand how to use the SARA model in their daily work as a problem-solving strategy. I then implemented the SARA Model within the Department, which is used on recurring problems identified in our City (e.g., gang/drug activity in apartments/houses). Officers are currently using the SARA Model in their daily work, which gives a long-term resolution to problems identified.

Many of our calls for service generated are from apartment complexes and mobile home parks. The Coalinga Police Department uses a City Ordinance, (Rental Eviction Program MC 821), to address problem tenants involved in criminal activity. The Ordinance holds the property owners accountable to stop criminal activity occurring by renters on their property or the owners may face a stiff fine. **Accomplishments:** To improve communication in identifying problem tenants involved in criminal activity, we met with approximately 20 Apartment/Mobile Home managers. In 2022, we hosted three meetings, two in person and one virtual and a Coalition among the managers was formed. The Coalition meetings have been beneficial in reducing calls for service at the complexes, and improving communication between the responding officers and managers. In addition, we are hoping the managers of the complexes will invest in technology of using video cameras to help reduce violence and thefts on their property.

The use of technology and video cameras have been instrumental in aiding in the arrests of violent criminals and thieves. **Accomplishments:** On December 1, 2022, Council approved the Police Department to implement a Community Video Policing Program (CVPP) in the City of Coalinga, which will enhance the safety of our residents and businesses, and have a significant impact on reducing crimes. The Community Video Policing Program involves strategically placing 10 cameras and 15 License Plate Captures (LPCs) throughout the community, which will be monitored in real time by sworn officers, and non-sworn personnel. CVPP also involves partnering with merchants and apartment managers. To aid in investigations, merchants and apartment managers wishing to install specific cameras on their property will have their cameras linked to the Police Department. Although the monitoring of the cameras will not be 24/7, the recording will be stored for minimum of 60 days for investigation purposes.

The Community Video Policing Program is not dependent on cellular service or the internet. The CVPP wireless network will provide point to point connectivity to support the city-wide deployment of cameras. This wireless infrastructure will stream video to the server provided, which will be located

at Coalinga Police Department. Phase 1 of CVPP involves setting up the infrastructure for all Phases, along with installing cameras and LPCs at the first 4 of 10 intersections in the City. Thanks to the funds from a grant and State funds awarded to the Police Department by Senator Anna Caballero, Phase 1 is completely paid for with a tentative completion in Spring 2023.

Goal 3: Build Community Trust

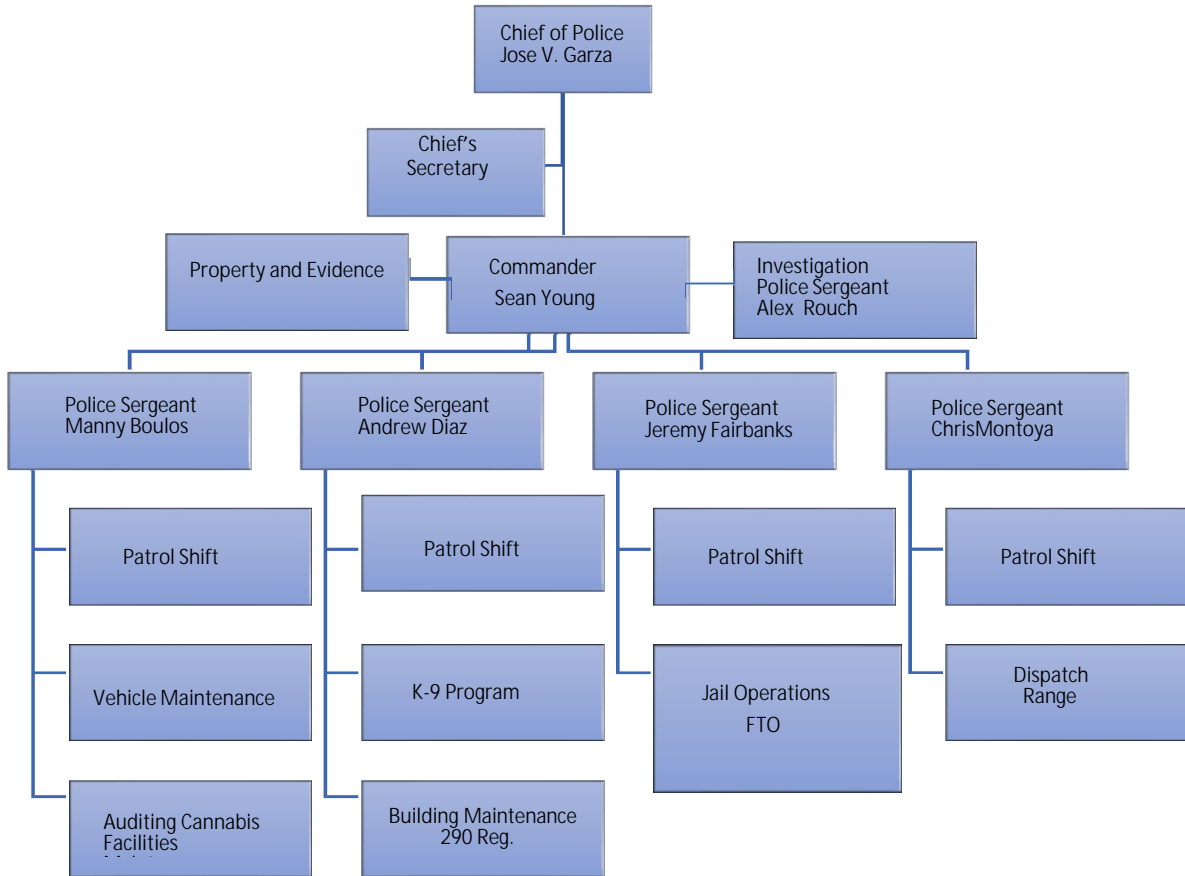
Accomplishments: In building community trust, I have the Police Department fully immersed in the development of community-police partnerships. In 2022, we positively engaged the community at numerous events, such as Aera's Ribbon Cutting at Keck Park, Mardi Gras, Autism Awareness Walk, Annual Horn Toad Parade/Carnival, Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk for Treats, Let Your Light's Shine Christmas Parade, and Christmas Gifts Give Away. In addition, who can forget dunking officers in the water tank at National Night Out. These events have enhanced community trust with CPD employees.

We will continue to work on these three overarching goals and expand our work to accomplish the following 2023 goals with your continued guidance and support.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024,

1. Hire additional officers, preferably 4. Currently, the ratio of CPD officers is 1.3 sworn officers per 1000 population. It has been my experience that 1.7 to 2.0 sworn officers per 1000 population is a goal that law enforcement agencies strive to achieve, in order to optimize police services, increase proactivity, and enhance community-police partnerships.
2. Complete Phases 2 through 5 of our CVPP, which involves installing cameras and License Plate Captures at 6 additional intersections. In addition, partner with merchants and apartment managers to install specific cameras on their property that will be linked to the Police Department (Phase 6), along with educating the citizens of Coalinga on the importance of having a Community Video Policing Program. Completing all Phases of Community Video Policing Program will enhance the safety of our residents and businesses and have a significant impact on reducing crimes.
3. Create a Police Chief's Advisory Board (e.g., Public Safety Committee), which is comprised of Council District representatives, school officials, managers, business owners, and community members. The Board will provide feedback on proposed police programs and priorities, along with being a sounding board for the Department on how we can address issues of concern and improve our services.
4. Create a new "homeowner" ordinance, which holds owners accountable to stop criminal activity occurring in their homes by family members who may be involved in illegal activity (e.g., gangs, drugs), or face a stiff fine.

Coalinga Police Department's Organizational Chart 2022



2022 staffing level of the police department- 34 positions:

- 1 Police Chief
- 1 Police Commander
- 5 Police Sergeants
- 4 Police Corporals
- 10 Police Officers
- 1 Vacant Reserve positions
- 5 Full time Police Technicians (dispatchers)
- 4 Part-time Police Technician's (dispatchers)
- 1 Police Records Technician
- 1 Secretary to the Chief of Police
- 1 Police Evidence Technician

Uniform Crime Report Statistics

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) is the oldest measure of crime reporting in the United States. Developed in the 1920s by the FBI, the report receives its data from victims' reports of crime to law enforcement. There are 7 Part 1 Crimes in the Uniform Crime Report (Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Auto Theft), which are mandated reporting to the Department of Justice each month by all Law Enforcement agencies. Law Enforcement agencies use month to month and year to year analysis to predict crime trends.

By the end of 2022, Part 1 Crimes increased by 17%, which meant we had 47 more people victimized in the City of Coalinga, compared to 2021. There was a significant increase in Robberies and Assaults in 2022. Below are the Month to Month and Year to Year Tables of Part 1 Crimes.

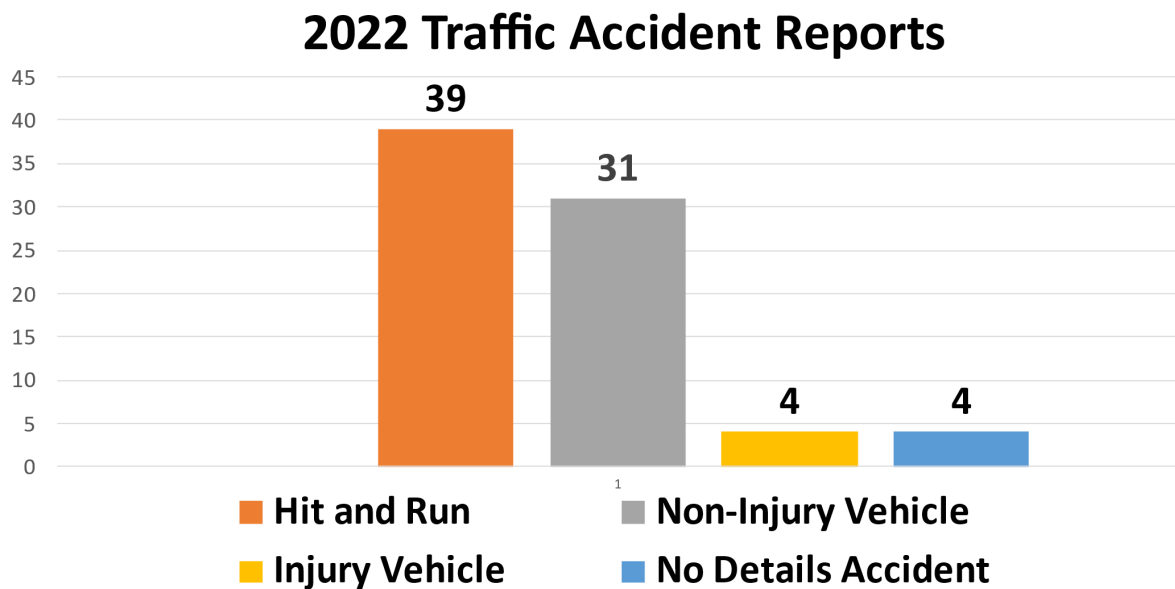
PART 1 CRIMES						
	LAST DEC	THIS DEC	% CHANGE	YTD 2021	YTD 2022	% CHANGE
HOMICIDE	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
RAPE	0	0	0%	10	4	-60%
ROBBERY	0	1	0%	3	6	100%
ASSAULT	12	9	-25%	109	165	51%
BURGLARY	8	3	-63%	57	52	-9%
LARCENY	1	7	600%	88	82	-7%
AUTO THEFT	2	3	0%	11	10	-9%
TOTAL PART ONE	23	23	0%	278	325	17%

Calls for Service Statistics:

The best way to analyze the activity of the Police Department is using raw calls for service data. These data over time shows both activities generated by the public and by patrol. In 2022 the Police Department handled 13,704 CFS compared to 2021 where the police department handled 11,928 CFS, which is a 14.9 % increase in calls for service.

Traffic Accident Statistics:

The Coalinga Police Department is responsible for traffic enforcement for the City of Coalinga. In 2022, the Department responded to 78 traffic accidents that occurred in the city.



Animal Control Statistics

Gimme Love, a non-profit organization, is responsible for the care and welfare of the animal shelter in the City of Coalinga. The Police Department uniform patrol officers responded to 282 animal complaints and wrote 10 reports in 2022.

Gimme Love's 2022 Intake Statistics:

Dogs 726
In house 17
In foster care 16
Euthanasia 1 due to injuries
Return to owner 14
Transferred 678 to another shelter

Cats 385
In house 47
In foster care 14
Euthanasia 4 due to injuries
Died of a virus 54
Transferred 270 to another shelter

Total intake: 1,111 animals

Canine Program

The City of Coalinga has a new K9 Handler Cpl. David Cano and his K9 named Nitro. After an intense training program, Nitro received a certificate of completion on May 6, 2022, and officially started working in Patrol.

Nitro conducted 6 Narcotic Searches and 4 Building searches in 2022.

In 2022, the Coalinga Police Department sent out the following 15 Press Releases of Notable Cases:

Date: February 2, 2022

Search Warrant Leads to Narcotics and Arrest

On February 2, 2022, officers of the Coalinga Police Department, with the assistance of the Crisis Response Team from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, served a search warrant in the 400 block of S. Hachman. During the search warrant, methamphetamine and ammunition were recovered. Coalinga resident, Tony Pulido, was arrested for felon in possession of ammunition and possession of methamphetamine for sales.

Date: February 12, 2022

POLICE INVESTIGATE SHOOTING

On Friday, February 11, 2022, at about 5:50pm, officers were dispatched to the area of Elm and Van Ness regarding a report of a vehicle being shot at. Officers found the victims vehicle had been struck several times by gunfire, luckily not injuring any of the occupants. During the course of the investigation, it was found that 19-year-old Coalinga resident, Dezstynd Towner, was found to be involved and was arrested and charged with Shooting at an Occupied Vehicle and Conspiracy.

This investigation is still active, and the Police Department is seeking any information anybody may have that will be of assistance. Members of the public can contact the Police Department at (559) 935-1525. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

Date: February 15, 2022

SECOND ARREST MADE IN SHOOTING

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, officers conducted follow up on the shooting that took place on Van Ness near Elm. 22-year-old Coalinga resident, Ismael Hernandez, was taken into custody for his involvement in the shooting and booked into the Fresno County Jail for Shooting at an Occupied Vehicle, Conspiracy and Violation of Parole.

This investigation is still active, and the Police Department is seeking any information anybody may have that will be of assistance. Members of the public can contact the Police Department at (559) 935-1525. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

Date: September 12, 2022

OUTSIDE AGENCY SEARCH WARRANT LEADS TO ARREST

On Thursday 9/8/22, detectives with the Central California Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force arrested 46-year-old Jerardo Mendez Gonzales at his residence on the 200 block of Harrison Street in Coalinga. Gonzalez was booked into the Fresno County Jail for possession of Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM) with bail set at \$20,000. This investigation was prompted by two separate CyberTips from the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) regarding a subject who possessed CSAM in an electronic account. Gonzalez is currently in custody, If anyone has additional information about Jerardo Gonzalez please contact Detective Nayelie Vasquez (559) 487-6027 or submit a CyberTip at <http://www.missingkids.com/home>.

Date: March 14, 2022

GATHERING LEADS TO STABBING

On Friday, March 11, 2022, at about 11:15 pm officers responded to the 500 block of Sullivan regarding a report of a stabbing. Upon arriving, officers located one individual who had several stab wounds throughout his body. Officers rendered first aid until EMS arrived and then turned the victim over to them for further treatment. The victim was later transported to the Regional Medical Center in Fresno. Officers were advised the suspect, Coalinga resident, Donna Placencia, had fled the area just after the stabbing occurred. While officers were conducting their investigation, Placencia returned to the scene. At that time, Placencia began to attack the officers. Placencia was eventually taken into custody after being tased. Officers found that both the victim and Placencia had consumed alcohol and marijuana "edibles" prior to the incident while they were hanging out with friends. At some point, Placencia began attacking the victim. During the attack, Placencia grabbed several kitchen knives and began stabbing the victim.

Placencia was also transported to the Regional Medical Center in Fresno for wounds she sustained during the incident with the victim. Charges will be forwarded against Placencia for Assault with a Deadly Weapon due to her extended treatment in the hospital.

Date: March 14, 2022

PURSUIT SUSPECT ARRESTED

On Friday, March 11, 2022, at about 3am officers conducted a vehicle check at the Cambridge Inn. As officers attempted to contact the suspect, San Jose resident Karlo Manan, Manan fled from officers in his vehicle. Manan led officers on a pursuit through the city, at one point ramming one of the officer's patrol cars in his attempts to get away. Manan then began to drive out of the city on Elm, towards Fresno, at speeds between 70mph and 100mph. Manan was finally stopped on SR33, south of SR198, north of the city. Manan was taken into custody without further incident. Manan was later booked into the Fresno County Jail for Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Resisting, Felony Evading and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Officers are still investigating whether the vehicle Manan was driving was stolen out of the Paso Robles area.

Date: March 14, 2022

RAPE SUSPECT ARRESTED

On Tuesday, March 8, 2022, Officers were dispatched to a report of a rape that occurred within the city limits. During the course of the investigation, Coalinga resident, Ramon Juan Lucas, was contacted and arrested for multiple counts of rape of the same victim. Lucas was transported to the Fresno County Jail and booked for violations of PC 261(a)(2).

Date September 6, 2022

FENTANYL FOUND IN COALINGA

On 9/6/2022, officers were dispatched to an alarm at a local business. While investigating the call, officers contacted 24-year-old Coalinga resident, Arturo Padilla, in the immediate area. Padilla was found to have two active warrants for his arrest and was taken into custody without incident. While conducting an inventory of Padilla's property, a black canister was found in his pocket and found to contain 4 blue colored pills with the marking "M" on them. A methamphetamine smoking pipe was also found hidden in his waistband. The pills were later sent off to the lab for testing and were discovered to be fentanyl.

On 9/15/2022, officers conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle for a mechanical violation. During the stop, a backpack was checked and found to contain, amongst other things, two plastic baggies. One bag contained a white powdery substance believed to be Heroin and the other plastic bag contained over 20 square, blue colored pills with the marking "M30" on them. The pills were sent off for testing and were discovered to be fentanyl.

Date: May 25, 2022

WATER BALLOON FIGHT LEADS TO ARREST

On Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at about 1:45pm, officers were dispatched to Keck Park regarding a report of a person who had been shot with a bb gun. During the course of the investigation, it was found that several high school students were at Keck Park having a water balloon fight. One of the

water balloons hit a vehicle and an argument ensued with the owner of that vehicle. During the argument, the owner of the vehicle took a bb gun out of their vehicle and fired several bb's at the victim, striking both the vehicle and another vehicle. The victim sustained an injury to their arm but denied medical treatment. The suspect was later arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

Date: June 22, 2022

HIT AND RUN LEAVES VICTIM SERIOUSLY INJURED

On Friday, June 17th, at about 9:45pm, officers were dispatched to a report of an injured person at the intersection of 4th and Forest. Upon arriving, officers found a 36-year-old Coalinga resident sitting on the curb at the intersection, suffering from a serious head wound. During the investigation it was found the victim was walking across 4th when a vehicle turned from Forest onto 4th. The vehicle hit the victim, stopped then fled the area, traveling westbound on Forest and turning southbound onto 5th, leaving the victim laying in the middle of the roadway. A passing motorist came across the subject and called the police. The victim was treated and transported for medical attention by Coalinga EMS. The victim suffered multiple skull fractures as a result of the collision.

The Coalinga Police Department is actively investigating this crime and are seeking the suspect and the suspect vehicle, a gray 4-door Dodge truck, with chrome wheels.

The police department is seeking any other witnesses to this incident. If you have any information, you may contact the police department at (559) 935-1525. You can remain anonymous if you would like.

Date: July 11, 2022

ARREST MADE IN RAPE INVESTIGATION

On 07/08/2022 officers were dispatched to the lobby of the Coalinga Police Department for a report of a juvenile rape that had occurred within the city of Coalinga. Through extensive investigation by officers, along with help from family members and friends of the juvenile victim, an arrest was made. The suspect that was taken into custody in this case, was more than ten years older than the minor victim and was a family friend of the victim. Unfortunately, with crimes of this nature, it is often a family member or friend who is responsible. The Coalinga Police Department would like to thank all of those individuals who stepped up in this case to help keep our community safe. If you, or anyone you know, has been a victim of a violent crime we encourage you to come forward.

Date: July 17, 2022

ARREST MADE IN RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

On 07/15/2022 at about 1800 hours, officers from the Coalinga Police Department responded to a burglary in progress in the 700 block of E Polk Street. The reporting party at the time stated they saw a male subject inside of the home through an in-home camera system. A photo was captured of the suspect who was later identified as 24-year-old Jared Alberto Romauldo Delatoba by officers who were on scene.

During the investigation officers located several pieces of evidence that linked Jared to the scene. One piece of evidence was the video surveillance that captured him as he entered the residence.

Jared entered the residence without permission attempting to take items from the inside of the residence. When officers arrived, Jared had already fled the scene due to the alarm system going off.

On 07/16/2022 at about 2046 hours, officers were dispatched a second time to the 700 block of E Polk Street for a burglary in progress. Officers responded to the area and quickly set a perimeter around the residence and located Jared coming from behind the residence in the alleyway. Officers contacted Jared and arrested him for the residential burglary. He was booked on first degree burglary charges and violation of probation for burglary.

Date: August 17, 2022

New Campus Safety Officer

The Coalinga Police Department and the West Hills Community College, Coalinga Campus, have signed the new contract for a Campus Safety Officer to help increase safety of students and staff on the college campus. Officer Brady Kaiser has been assigned to the position for the Fall Semester. Officer Kaiser is a graduate of the Coalinga High School (Go Toads!!) and attended West Hills College in 2018. Officer Kaiser started with the Coalinga Police Department in 2019 as a Public Safety Dispatcher. He was then sponsored by the police department and attended the Fresno Police Academy and graduated in March 2022. Officer Kaiser has been serving his community as a police officer ever since.

Date: September 12, 2022

OUTSIDE AGENCY SEARCH WARRANT LEADS TO ARREST

On Thursday 9/8/22, detectives with the Central California Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force arrested 46-year-old Jerardo Mendez Gonzales at his residence on the 200 block of Harrison Street in Coalinga. Gonzalez was booked into the Fresno County Jail for possession of Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM) with bail set at \$20,000. This investigation was prompted by two separate CyberTips from the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) regarding a subject who possessed CSAM in an electronic account. Gonzalez is currently in custody, If anyone has additional information about Jerardo Gonzalez please contact Detective Nayelie Vasquez (559) 487-6027 or submit a CyberTip at <http://www.missingkids.com/home>.

Date: October 5, 2022

MULTI-AGENCY OPERATION WRAP UP

On October 4th, 2022, members of the Coalinga Police Department, Agents from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), officers with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Crisis Response Teams from Avenal, Corcoran and Pleasant Valley State Prisons, and K-9 Officers with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) wrapped up an almost 2-year federal investigation involving the sales of firearms and narcotics involving Bulldog criminal street gang members.

During the operation one of the main suspects, Coalinga resident Juan Carlos Ruiz Jr., led officers on a 10-mile pursuit through dirt roads and orchards before wrecking his vehicle and fleeing on foot into an orchard near Lassen Avenue and SR-198. With the assistance of the CHP helicopter Ruiz was

taken into custody without incident. Ruiz will be facing federal charges for the sales of firearms and narcotics.

Officers served federal search warrants at 4 different locations within the City of Coalinga for weapons and narcotics and another in Tulare County. Those search warrants led to the recovery of 3 firearms, ammunition, firearm magazines, over 2-pounds of methamphetamine and narcotic paraphernalia. Coalinga residents, Vicki Sanchez and Alma Sanchez were arrested and will face state charges for narcotic, firearm, and evidence destruction related charges. Coalinga residents, Michael Ackerman and Antonio Pulido Jr, were later arrested for their involvement in this investigation and will be facing state charges for narcotics violations. During the course of the investigation, officers and agents conducted several controlled buys for several pounds of methamphetamine and numerous firearms. Several other search warrants have been written and served throughout the Central Valley. Those search warrants resulted in the seizure of at least 5 other firearms, about 153 gallons of liquid methamphetamine and about 25-30 pounds of "crystal" methamphetamine, from different methamphetamine labs that were linked to cartels in Mexico.