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PRESS RELEASE

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Traffic Stops Leads to Narcotics Arrest

On July 1, 2024, at about 3pm, officers were alerted by the video surveillance camera system that a vehicle that was inputted by officers due to the owner having outstanding warrants, was traveling within the city. Officers located the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop on it in the area of 7th and Durian. The driver, 63-year-old Coalinga resident Joel Lee White, was arrested for multiple outstanding arrest warrants for numerous vehicle code and narcotics violations. During the arrest for his warrants, White attempted to discard a baggie a methamphetamine that he was hiding inside of his pants by throwing it in the roadway.

White was booked into the Coalinga City Jail and later transported to the Fresno County Jail on his warrants and for the fresh charges of possession of a controlled substance and driving on a suspended license.