



Ceres Department of Public Safety

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NEWS RELEASE

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Recent Weapons Seizures by Ceres Police Officers on Traffic Stops

Ceres, California – On January 30, at 1041 hours, Officer John King made a car stop for traffic violations at Parklawn and Church. He contacted three males in the car and during a check for warrants, George Shuwoy, 18 years old from Modesto, was found to have a warrant issued for his arrest. The warrant was for weapon possession charges. The driver and passenger were removed from the car and when asked if there was anything illegal in the vehicle, a 14 yr old juvenile passenger from Modesto told officers there was a gun under his seat. A loaded .22 revolver was located. The juvenile was arrested for possession of a loaded firearm, and the driver, Fidel Madrigal who is 30 years old from Modesto, was arrested for weapons violations. All three subjects were suspected Norteno gang members.

On February 4, at 2130 hours, Officer James Riley made a traffic stop in the 2500 block of Mitchell Road. During the stop, he contacted Filiberto Calderon, who is 18 years old and from Keyes. It was learned that he was on probation and searchable for stolen property. A search of the vehicle revealed a .9mm loaded handgun inside the glove box, directly in front of where he was seated. It was determined that the gun was stolen during a burglary in Merced County. Calderon was arrested for a variety of charges, ranging from probation violations, for being a felon in possession of a firearm, possession of stolen property, carrying a loaded firearm, and carrying a loaded firearm in a vehicle.

Police agencies throughout this region are regularly seizing stolen, loaded, and illegally concealed firearms from persons engaged in or convicted of crimes. This problem is in a distinctly upward trend, making our communities ever more dangerous for the public and law enforcement personnel alike. Firearms, along with gold jewelry, are among the most sought after items in home burglaries, so it is imperative that firearms owners take the utmost care in safely locking and securing them to keep them out of the hands of the criminals plying our streets.