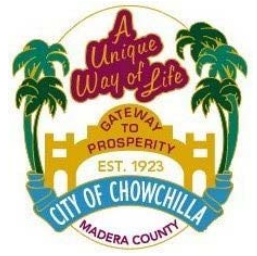




Chowchilla Police Department

Jay A. Varney, Chief of Police
122 Trinity Avenue, Chowchilla, California 93610



Press Release

On June 11, 2008, Detective Charles Scott and Officer Phil Cheatham of the Chowchilla Police Department, with the assistance of the Madera County Gang Enforcement Team, arrested four men responsible for a home invasion robbery that occurred on June 10, 2008 at approximately 4:00 a.m. in the 100 block of Kings Avenue.

Arrested and booked into the Madera County Department of Corrections were 24-year-old Gerardo Ayala, 30-year-old Juan Ramirez, 39-year-old Arthur Garcia Goycolen and 40-year-old Gerardo Fernandez, all of Madera.

All four men were arrested and charged with kidnapping, robbery, home invasion robbery, burglary and conspiracy. Ayala is also being held on a violation of parole and Fernandez is being held on a violation of probation.

"Detective Scott and Officer Cheatham invested a lot of man hours and good police work into this case" stated Sergeant Dave Riviere.

The Department also wants to pass on its appreciation to Commander Michael Haroldsen and the Agents of the Madera County Gang Enforcement Team for their assistance in this investigation.

"Our community has been blessed by the fact that this type of crime has been a rarity in Chowchilla", stated Chief Jay Varney. "It's a great feeling to know that the law enforcement agencies in our county have the support of the community and have committed resources to programs such as MADGET. When we need additional investigative resources on gang-related issues our department relies on these resources. Our department looks forward to being able to return our investigator to that task force in the future".

Service & Safety

Office (559) 665-8600 Fax (559) 665-7416
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/police_main.htm