



# *Chowchilla Police Department*

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



Date: February 13, 2010  
To: Media Release  
From: Ruben Mendoza, Police Sergeant  
Subject: Shots Fired

On Friday, at approximately 8:55 P.M., Officers Justin Rogers and Luis Carrillo were on patrol in the 400 block of Humboldt Avenue when they heard three rapid gunshots in the area. The officers spotted a vehicle speeding out of town southbound on Fifth Street. Officers pursued the fleeing vehicle and conducted a high risk vehicle stop on the vehicle on Road 16, south of the Berenda Slough.

Investigation by the officers revealed that the shooting incident had occurred in the 500 block of Trinity Avenue and that an occupied dwelling had been fired upon. Officers recovered evidence at the scene of the shooting as well as the weapon used in firing at the dwelling.

As a result of the investigation, Ramiro Velarde (20), Miguel Anthony Moran (20), and Jesus Sanchez Garcia (21) were arrested and booked at the Madera County Jail for PC246 shooting at an inhabited dwelling, PC 182 conspiracy, and PC 186.22 participation in a criminal street gang.

Police Chief Jay Varney stated, "We are very thankful that no one was injured in this senseless act of violence. We have no tolerance for gang related violence. The Chowchilla Police Department will continue to take aggressive actions to limit gang activity in Chowchilla. The officers responsible for this arrest were not just in the right place at the right time; the rapid resolution of this crime was the result of proactive patrolling on their part".

"City wide budget cuts have prevented the Police Department from filling the Department's gang detective position. Until the economy improves and we are able to staff this position, the department will continue to adapt and provide a high level of service to the citizens of Chowchilla. Citizen participation is essential in keeping our community safe" stated Chief Varney. If you have information regarding this incident or any gang activity, please contact the Chowchilla Police Department at (559) 665-8600 or anonymously on the Tip Line at (559) 665-8624.

*Service & Safety*

Office (559) 665-8600 Fax (559) 665-7416  
[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/police\\_main.htm](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/police_main.htm)