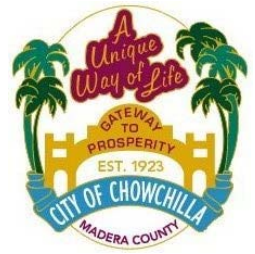




# *Chowchilla Police Department*

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



## **Press Release**

**December 30, 2011**

On December 29, 2011, officers of the Chowchilla Police Department and a deputy from the Madera County Sheriffs Department were conducting residence checks for a wanted person. These checks were conducted in the City of Chowchilla and along its city limits.

Officers were looking for Keith Hodges who is a wanted felon. One location in the county resulted in five rifles being taken as "safe keeping" until the rightful owner(s) can be located. Officers also contacted a homeowner in the 600 block of S. Sixth Street and were given permission to check the residence for the wanted person. During the residence check, officers observed items lying out inside of the residence that had been previously reported stolen that morning. They also located 20-year-old Chowchilla resident Michael Wright inside the residence. Wright was wanted for a crime he was suspected of committing the previous day. Wright was transported to the Madera County Jail where he was booked for suspicion of domestic battery and running from police officers. The stolen items from the residence were turned over to the victim who was happy to get his property back.

Law enforcement is still looking for Keith Hodges who is a 39-year-old Chowchilla resident. He is a Native American who stands 6 feet tall and is approximately 220 pounds with long black hair. If he is seen, please contact the Chowchilla Police Department immediately at (559) 665-8600.

Sgt Palmer stated he was proud of the work Officers Hormel, Ramirez and Markle put in during the search for Hodges and appreciated the assistance of Madera Deputy Luis Padgett. "Their efforts resulted in removing weapons from a potentially unsafe environment, location of one wanted person, and the recovery of some stolen property," he stated. "These are the type of officers the residents of Chowchilla should be proud of."

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*Service & Safety*

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[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/police\\_main.htm](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/police_main.htm)