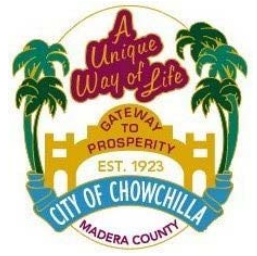




Chowchilla Police Department

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



To: MEDIA

From: David Noblett, Police Sergeant

Date: March 6, 2009

Subject: Vehicle Pursuit

On Thursday, March 5, 2009, at approximately 7 p.m., officers from the Chowchilla Police Department attempted an enforcement stop in the 600 block of S. Fifth Street. When officers attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver accelerated and failed to stop for officers. Additional officers joined the pursuit of the vehicle which had been reported stolen. The stolen vehicle continued at high speeds in an attempt to lose the pursuing officers. After driving southbound towards Madera on Highway 99, the vehicle exited the freeway and returned northbound on Highway 99 towards Chowchilla. The vehicle then continued westbound on Highway 152 when the vehicle lost a tire and the pursuit speeds dropped to approximately 20 miles per hour. The stolen vehicle finally came to a stop on Highway 152 just east of Road 15 ³/₄. The three occupants of the stolen vehicle were taken into custody without incident. Members of the California Highway Patrol and the Madera County Sheriff's Department assisted in the pursuit.

The vehicle had been reported stolen out of San Jose, Ca. and all three occupants were from the San Jose area. The driver was identified as Juan Carlos Reyescortez, 22, of San Jose. One passenger was identified as Irving Marcello Reyes, 18, of San Jose and the other passenger was a 15-year-old juvenile who was a reported runaway from San Jose. Reyescortez and Reyes were booked into the Madera County Jail on a multitude of charges. The 15-year-old juvenile was booked into Madera County Juvenile Hall. "All of the officers and the dispatcher involved did an outstanding job throughout the pursuit" stated Chief Jay Varney of the Chowchilla Police Department.

Service & Safety

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