



Fresno County Sheriff's Office

Margaret Mims, Sheriff **April 22, 2009**

Deputy Christian Curtice – Public Information Officer
E-Mail: Christian.curtice@fresnosheriff.org
Office 559.488.2699 Fax 559.262.4032

MEDIA ADVISORY: Eagle One Assists In Arrests

The Sheriff's Office helicopter Eagle One was busy last night assisting patrol deputies and officers from the California Highway Patrol in two separate incidents.

The first incident occurred a short time after 8:00pm. Eagle One was requested by CHP to assist on a hit & run traffic accident at the intersection of Hwy 145 & Jensen Ave, just outside the city limits of Kerman.

Two vehicles had been involved in the accident. The driver of one of the vehicles, 24 year old Francisco Javier Magana, had fled the scene of the accident and was being pursued by CHP officers. When Eagle One arrived, ground officers advised the helicopter crew that Magana had fled eastbound into a vineyard. Using the Forward Looking Infrared, the helicopter crew spotted Magana hiding in an orchard east of the vineyard. The helicopter crew directed officers to Magana who was taken into custody without further incident.

Magana, from Kerman, was arrested and later booked on charges of felony hit & run, and driving under the influence.

Shortly after 11:00pm, sheriff's deputies attempted to stop a black Hyundai in the area of Lincoln & Marks. The vehicle failed to stop and a pursuit ensued. Deputies temporarily lost the vehicle but located it a short time later in an alfalfa field in the area of American & Marks.

Eagle One was on scene within minutes to assist. Again, using the FLIR, Eagle One was able to direct ground deputies to three subjects who had fled and were hiding in the alfalfa field.

As a result of the investigation, 27 year old Geronimo Arango was ultimately arrested and booked on charges of driving under the influence and evading.