



Fresno County Sheriff - Coroner's Office

Margaret Mims, Sheriff - Coroner

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News Release

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Large Investigation into Calwa Gang Nets Dozens of Arrests and Gun Seizures

On Friday, October 28th, Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims announced results of an ongoing investigation primarily focused on one criminal street gang in Calwa. They are responsible for crimes such as murder, robbery, drug dealing, human trafficking and illegal gun trafficking.

The Fresno County Sheriff's Office and the MAGEC team received great assistance from several law enforcement agencies. They include:

California Highway Patrol, Fresno Police Department, Fresno County District Attorney's Office, Clovis Police Department, Fresno County Probation Department, Kingsburg Police Department, Tulare County Sheriff's Office, Fresno Methamphetamine Task Force, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Homeland Security Investigations.

Since the beginning of the year, law enforcement has served search warrants at **34 homes**, arrested **47 people** and recovered **30 guns**. These numbers include results from a large joint-agency operation which took place on Thursday, October 27th, where search warrants were served at **16 homes**, **23 arrests** were made and **11 guns** were recovered.

This entire investigation was kick started by a carjacking and rape case that happened on December 14th, 2015. The victim had started her night at a party in Calwa and was ultimately robbed and sexually assaulted by two gang members at another location. One is a **17 year old male**, who has since been tried as an adult and is now serving a seven year prison sentence. The other, **20 year old Albert Gallardo**, remains in the Fresno County Jail as he awaits his court hearings.

On January 11th, 2016, two people were shot and killed on a Calwa street while taking a late night walk. They were a mother and son who had no ties to gangs whatsoever. **77 year old Maria Lopez** and **52 year old Jesus Castor** were gunned down for no reason at all. This incited feelings of both fear and anger in the community, which is why at that point law enforcement made it a goal to crackdown on violence so that no other tragedies would occur. It's uncertain if any of those arrested are responsible for the murders of Maria and Jesus, but it is fair to say that in custody are persons of interest and people who have knowledge of what happened that night.

The following is a list of some of the major arrests that have been made during this investigation and the crimes they are accused of committing.

A shooting classified as an attempted homicide that took place in the city of Fresno on September 20th. **23 year old Juan Carrillo** and a **17 year old male** have been booked into jail.

Two suspects involved in human trafficking, pimping and pandering are jail. **25 year old Adrianna Agredano** and **22 year old Rudy Ortiz** have been running an elaborate prostitution ring that stretched from southern California up to the state of Washington. These two would force girls, some of whom were minors, to perform sexual acts. If the victims did not obey orders, the suspects would beat them.

Two 18 year olds, **Gustavo Gonzales** and **Julius Sabrsula** are in jail for robbing a man at the Fresno Fair. On October 5th, the two suspects beat

up a man and ripped his gold chain off his neck. This all happened as the victim held his 2 year old grandson. The child wound up falling to the ground and suffered injuries to his head and face.

Several people have been arrested for smuggling drugs into the Fresno County Jail. They include **20 year old Mike Hernandez, 22 year old Oscar Gallardo** and **24 year old Matthew Jacinto**.

Five people were arrested after being found to be in possession of a firearm in public. **24 year old Michael Hernandez, 28 year old Issac Yanez, two 17 year old males** and **24 year old Jasmine Sanchez**, who ironically is enrolled at Fresno State as a criminology student.

23 year old Frank Agredano is a Calwa gang member who was arrested after being in possession of drugs for sale.

There are believed to be more victims out there who have been terrorized by gangs and we urge them to seek help. Victim advocates with the group **“Central Valley Against Human Trafficking”** are available to get you the resources you need to live a safe, healthy life. You can call them at **1-888-373-7888** or text the word **“HELP”** to **233733**.

If you have any information that can help solve any cases, call Crime Stoppers at **(559) 498-7867**. You may be eligible for a cash reward worth up to \$3,000. As always, your personal information will not be shared with anyone.