



Fresno County Sheriff's Office

Margaret Mims, Sheriff

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News Release

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Man Now Faces Restraining Order Violation and Child Endangerment Charges in Death of Eight Year Old Girl

Detectives with the Fresno County Sheriff's Abuse Unit have added additional charges to the arrest record of 51 year old Juan Del Toro Ramirez. He now faces a felony charge of child endangerment and a misdemeanor charge for violating a protective order. Del Toro Ramirez was originally booked into the Fresno County Jail on November 13th for a misdemeanor charge of battery. His bail is set at \$85,000.

Shortly before 10:00 pm on Friday, November 12th, sheriff's deputies and officers with the California Highway Patrol responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian crash on Friant Road, north of Willow Ave. Once on scene, they discovered an eight year old girl had been struck and killed. The 82 year old man who accidentally hit the child while driving in foggy conditions immediately made a report to law enforcement and stayed on scene to cooperate with authorities.

Through the course of the investigation, sheriff's detectives determined Juan Del Toro Ramirez was a passenger in a 2004 Toyota Sequoia SUV, along with his 22 year old wife and her two daughters, ages eight and two. As the woman was driving on Friant Road, Del Toro Ramirez was repeatedly assaulting his wife. This caused the woman to pull over and park. While Del Toro Ramirez continued to attack the woman, her eight year old daughter open the rear door and got out of the vehicle. The couple made a brief attempt to find the girl, but were unable to locate her. A short time into their search, they saw law enforcement vehicles responding to the area. They pulled up to where officers and deputies had stopped and discovered the girl had been fatally struck by a vehicle on Friant Road.

Following an evaluation, CHP arrested the woman for misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI) and deputies arrested Del Toro Ramirez for misdemeanor battery. It was later determined Del Toro Ramirez had an active restraining order and should not have been around his wife or stepchildren. His violent actions also contributed to the child getting out of the vehicle and ultimately being struck by a passing motorist.

Detectives would like to speak with anyone who may have had contact with Del Toro Ramirez, his wife and her children prior to the collision. These witness accounts could prove to be valuable in this ongoing investigation.

Anyone with additional information is asked to please contact Detective Lindsay Kitchens at (559) 600-8216 or Crime Stoppers at (559) 498-7867, www.valleycrimestoppers.org You will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward.