

LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



PRESS RELEASE

On December 16, 2014 at about 6:00 p.m. Lemoore police officers were dispatched to an apartment in the 1100 block of West Bush Street for a call that a male was hitting and choking a female and he would not let her leave the residence. When officers arrived they contacted the victim, who said that she had an argument with suspect, 24 year old Dell Baker of Lemoore. Baker was upset because the victim was talking to another male on Facebook. The victim told the officers that during the argument she was sitting on a couch and Baker grabbed the collar of her jacket and used it to choke her. Baker then threw the victim on the floor. She tried to run out the front door but he beat her to the door and locked it so she could not leave. He continued to throw her around the apartment until they ended up in a bedroom, where he threw her into the walls. The victim said that the assault lasted for about 15 minutes and then Baker left the residence. The victim then went to a neighbor's and called the police. The victim had minor injuries and declined medical treatment.

Baker was outside the residence when officers arrived. He told the officers that he had been in an argument with the victim but he never assaulted her. Based on their investigation, the officers told Baker that he was under arrest. Baker became loud and argumentative and when the officer put a handcuff on one wrist, Baker pulled his other hand away so the officer could not finish handcuffing him. Baker refused multiple orders to comply with the officer as he tried to regain control of Baker. At one point Baker pulled his hand away from the officer so hard that the handcuff caused multiple lacerations on the officer's hand. Baker broke away from the officer and began quickly backing away, still refusing to submit to arrest. Baker fought with the officers as they tried to take him into custody, hitting one officer in the face. Baker was able to break free again and then fled on foot. One officer used his Taser to try to stop Baker but it was unsuccessful. Another officer arrived on scene and he also deployed his Taser as Baker fled but he missed.

Baker ran westbound on W. Bush Street and then northbound on N. 19th Avenue. Officers chased him and were able to catch up to him and take him into custody in the parking lot of another apartment complex. He was found to be in

possession of a small amount of marijuana and a small amount of concentrated cannabis. Baker was booked at the Kings County Jail for domestic violence, false imprisonment, felony battery on a peace officer, misdemeanor battery on a peace officer, resisting arrest, and possession of concentrated cannabis. His bail was set at \$140,000.

The two officers who were injured did not require medical treatment.