

LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



PRESS RELEASE

On Sunday, January 17th, 2016 at approx. 4:39 a.m. Lemoore P.D. units were dispatched to Travelodge in Lemoore, regarding a room on fire.

While responding to the scene dispatch advised there might be a "clandestine type narcotics lab". The Lemoore Police Sergeant arrived on scene and determined the explosion to have been caused by criminal activity. Two men were transported to the hospital for burn injuries. A third subject fled the scene and was later located. That subject was treated at Adventist Medical Center in Hanford and released to Lemoore PD custody. During the investigation it was determined that a fourth involved subject fled the scene.

Officers evacuated the remaining occupied rooms. Narcotics Task Force investigators responded after evidence of butane honey oil in room.

It is suspected that the vapors from the flammable solvent were ignited by an undetermined ignition source, which resulted in the explosion. There was major damage to the room.

Two of subjects suffered serious burn related injuries and were transported to Fresno Regional Medical Center.

Due to the nature of the incident, specialized investigative personnel from Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs) responded to assist.

This incident remains under investigation. Anyone with more information is encouraged to contact Lemoore Police Department at (559) 924-5333.

Names are not being released during this ongoing investigation

Hispanic Male Adult (21) Avenal
American Indian Male minor (15) Hanford
White Male Adult (18) Hanford