

LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



PRESS RELEASE

Case #L2301707

On June 2, 2023, at approximately 2:30 p.m., a Lemoore Police Department Officer was in the area of E. D St. and Cantera Ave. when he observed a vehicle with illegal window tint and no front license plate. When the officer tried to stop the vehicle, it initially stopped then one suspect exited and fled on foot. The vehicle then sped away from the officer and a vehicle pursuit ensued. The pursuit ended at the intersection of N. Lemoore Ave. and E. D St. when the vehicle was blocked in by traffic and Lemoore PD vehicles.

The driver of the vehicle was arrested and identified as, Jose Avina (37 years old), of Los Angeles. A passenger who was also arrested was identified as, Jonathan Castillo (34 years old), of Los Angeles. The third suspect who fled on foot is still outstanding at this time. The vehicle contained tools for cutting catalytic converters. A large amount of saw blades for cutting metal, drug paraphernalia, and 11 cut catalytic converters from various makes and models of vehicles were located inside the vehicle.

Avina had a bail amount of approximately \$55,000 dollars. Avina was booked into the Kings County Jail for evading police, conspiracy to commit crime, possession of burglary tools, and possession of unlawful paraphernalia. Castillo had a bail amount of approximately \$20,000 dollars. Castillo was booked into the Kings County Jail for conspiracy to commit crime, possession of burglary tools, and possession of unlawful paraphernalia.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Lemoore Police Department at (559) 924-9574.

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