

# LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



## **PRESS RELEASE**

On Friday, August 19, 2016 at about 1:29 am a Lemoore police officer was patrolling in the area of the 700 block of E. D St. when he observed a silver four-door vehicle veering off into the dirt shoulder. This driver corrected himself and began traveling westbound on E. D St. at a high rate of speed. The officer turned his patrol vehicle around to conduct a traffic enforcement stop and witnessed the silver vehicle traveling in the opposite lane of traffic. When the officer tried pulling the vehicle over, the driver failed to yield and fled at a high rate of speed.

The driver failed to stop for a red light and two stop signs before the officer temporarily lost sight of the vehicle in the area of W. D Street and W. Bush Street. Witnesses in the area told the officer that the vehicle went towards the area of 19 ½ Ave. and Silverado Drive. The officer located the vehicle again in the area of S. 19th Ave. and Iona Ave. The officer continued the pursuit and eventually saw the silver vehicle drive into an empty dirt field located in the area of S. 19th Ave. and Jackson Ave. The single occupant of the vehicle, who was later identified as a 17 year old male from Hanford, was taken into custody. The silver vehicle suffered moderate damage to the rear end.

During the investigation, it was determined that the silver vehicle was one of several vehicles that were stolen during a burglary from a car dealership in Hanford. The thefts of the vehicles occurred approximately ten minutes prior to the vehicle pursuit. The juvenile was turned over to the Hanford Police Department and was subsequently booked into the Kings County Juvenile Hall.