



Tulare Police Department

Wesley Hensley, Chief of Police

Sergeant Jon Hamlin, Public Information Officer

Press Release: 18-001

Office: (559) 684-4249

jhamlin@tulare.ca.gov

One of Tulare County's Most Wanted Arrested

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The following information is based on a preliminary, ongoing investigation which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records if available, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed

One of Tulare County's "Most Wanted" was apprehended by Tulare Police last night. Early last night officers were dispatched to the Red Roof Inn in Tulare regarding suspicious subjects around a vehicle. Upon arrival officers contacted a male subject, later identified as Luis R. Cimentel, and a female. While conducting the initial interview with Cimentel the officer noticed the license plates on the vehicle did not match the vehicle Cimentel was in.

The vehicle was found to be stolen and as soon as officers went to place handcuffs on Cimentel he attempted to run, but the officers were able to hold on to him. The struggle continued and an officer attempted to use their Taser, but due to the close quarters Cimentel grabbed on to the Taser and attempted to pry it away from the officer. The officer was able to pull the Taser away, but the fight continued between Cimentel and the other officer.

During this time Cimentel was struck with a baton, but he ultimately was able to get away. Cimentel jumped a wall and as he did the second officer tried to use their Taser, but was unable to make contact. Cimentel was able to get into a nearby parking lot, but he was cornered by two more responding officers.

A Taser was used a third time, made contact with some success, but Cimentel was able to again grab the officer's Taser and try to take it away. The fourth officer now on scene was able to tackle Cimentel to the ground and after more fighting he was finally placed in handcuffs.

Other than bumps and bruises the officers are fine. Cimentel was taken to the hospital to be medical cleared from the struggle with minor cuts and bruises.

Cimentel is being charged with felony assault on a peace officer, providing a false name, possession of stolen property (vehicle), along with several outstanding warrants, one being another assault on an officer. Cimentel was listed on the Tulare County Sheriff's Most Wanted List because of these warrants.

Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is urged to call the Tulare Police Department at any of the following numbers:

- Days, Nights and Weekends at (559) 684-4290
- Anonymously 24-hours a day (559) 685-2300 Ext: 4445
- Online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/webtipstart.aspx>

Contact Us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: (559) 685-2300 Ext: 3454

260 South "M" Street

Tulare, CA 93274