



## **Banning Police Department**

125 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, CA 92220 (951) 922-3170

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### *Press Release*

**Date:** 04/26/13

Case # 13-1559

**Location:** 555 N. Hathaway Street, Banning

**Incident:** Felony evading and driving under the influence

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On 04-25-13, about 1322 hours, a Banning Police officer noticed a 19 year old Banning resident, Joshua Rivas, driving a black Jeep Cherokee in the 600 block of E. Ramsey Street. The officer had knowledge that the driver was wanted on an outstanding felony warrant out of Riverside County. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle, at which time, the Jeep accelerated to 80 plus mph E/B on E. Williams Street.

The officer cancelled the pursuit at Williams Street and Hathaway Street due to the suspects erratic driving. The officer observed the vehicle drive onto the Morongo Reservation. A Riverside County Sheriff's helicopter located the Jeep on the reservation driving reckless and at high speeds. The helicopter observed the Jeep as it left the reservation and went back into the City of Banning. The helicopter radioed that the Jeep was driving erratically, on the wrong side of the road, and into oncoming traffic on E. Ramsey Street at high speeds. The helicopter followed the Jeep for several minutes as it continued to drive around the city at high speeds. Patrol units were not in pursuit at the time, and the Jeep collided into a curb, which disabled the Jeep in front of 555 N. Hathaway Street, Banning.

The driver, Joshua Rivas, fled from the vehicle and was captured in the parking lot of the N. Hathaway address without incident. Joshua Rivas was later booked into the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility in Banning for a felony stolen vehicle warrant; 2800.2 VC, felony evading; and 23152(a)(b) VC, driving under the influence of a controlled substance.

The investigation is still ongoing. Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the Banning Police Department. Watch Commander (951) 922-3170