

COUNTY OF FRESNO

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NEWS RELEASE

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Pheng Vang Charged Following Save Mart Standoff

Today, May 24, 2022, Pheng Vang (28, or Fresno) was charged in a felony complaint with crimes including evading an officer, receiving stolen property, and felony vandalism. The charges are related to an incident that started on May 19th at Fresno's River Park shopping center and ended with Vang's arrest on May 21st following a standoff at the Save Mart store located at First and Nees.

It is alleged that on May 19th at the River Park shopping center, an off-duty deputy sheriff noticed a vehicle matching the description of a car seen at the location of a residential burglary in Caruthers. The off-duty deputy then called on-duty deputies who responded to River Park and attempted to contact the suspects. When deputies attempted to make contact, Pheng Vang jumped into the suspect vehicle, rammed patrol cars as he exited the shopping center, and he was ultimately able to escape in the vehicle in the direction of First and Nees. Once he neared the Save Mart shopping center, Vang exited the vehicle and fled on foot into the Save Mart store. Vang proceeded to hide inside the Save Mart store until he fell through the ceiling on May 21st. After falling from the ceiling, Vang immediately attempted to flee on foot, but officers were able to detain him nearby after a short pursuit.

Vang has now been charged in a felony complaint alleging that he committed the following offenses:

- 1. EVADING AN OFFICER, WILLFUL DISREGARD [Vehicle Code section 2800.2]
- 2. FELONY RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY EXCEEDING \$950 [Penal Code section 496(a)]
- 3. FELONY VANDALISM [Penal Code section 594(a)]

Additionally, the complaint alleges that Vang has suffered four (4) prior serious felony ("strike") convictions within the meaning of Penal Code section 667(b) through (i) and 1170.12(a) through (d).

The complaint also alleges circumstances in aggravation pursuant to California Rules of Court 4.421(b)(2) and (b)(3), alleging that Vang has prior convictions that are numerous or of increasing seriousness, and that he's served a prior prison term under Penal Code section 1170(h).

Vang is scheduled to be arraigned in the Fresno County Superior Court on May 25, 2022.

Media may email <u>FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov</u> with any questions.