



## Porterville Police Department Press Release

**Incident:** Arson  
Felony Child Endangerment

**Location:** 400 block of N. Division Street, Porterville

**Date / Time:** December 11, 2011 / 10:00 PM

**Suspect(s):** Jessica Coyote, 20 years, Porterville resident

### **Summary:**

On December 11, 2011, at about 10:00 PM, Officers of the Porterville Police Department responded to a residence in the 400 block of N. Division Street for a report of an attempted suicide. It was reported that a female, later identified as 20 year old Jessica Coyote, tried to commit suicide by burning herself to death. As officers arrived on scene she was located hiding in a locked bedroom inside the residence. Upon accessing the bedroom, a large pile of clothes and personal items were located burnt and smoldering in a nearby bathroom. Neighbors and family members were contacted and it was determined that Coyote's children, a five year old and a six month old infant, were inside the home when she tried to burn it down. The older of the two children was able to escape and seek help from a neighbor, who came to the aid of the infant. The children were treated on scene by ambulance personnel and turned over to the custody of their father. Jessica Coyote was medically cleared for incarceration and she was booked at the Bob Wiley Detention Facility on charges of arson and child endangerment.

Investigators of the Porterville Fire Department responded to the scene and assumed the arson investigation.