



## Porterville Police Department Press Release

- Incident:** Assault with a Deadly Weapon  
Felony Child Endangerment
- Location:** 900 block of S. Wisconsin Street, Porterville
- Suspect(s):** Esai Rodriguez, 23 years, Porterville resident

### **Summary:**

On December 23, 2011, at approximately 3:51 PM, Officers of the Porterville Police Department responded to the 900 block of S. Wisconsin Street for a reported fight in progress. While en route to the call officers were advised that with his vehicle a male subject rammed another vehicle which was occupied by a woman and two children. The suspect vehicle fled the scene prior to officers' arrival.

The victim identified the suspect as her ex-boyfriend, 23-year-old Esai Rodriguez of Porterville. The victim's vehicle had damage consistent with her statement and there was also evidence at the scene to support the assault. The two children inside the victim's vehicle at the time of the assault were three years old and six months old. None of the occupants sustained any injuries. Though the suspect vehicle was located in the area of Scranton Avenue and Highway 65, attempts to locate and arrest Rodriguez throughout the remainder of the day yielded negative results.

On December 24 at approximately 5:30 PM Rodriguez was electronically tracked by Officers to a home in the 1500 block of W. San Lucia Avenue in Porterville. The home was subsequently searched and Rodriguez was found hiding in a small closet. He was arrested without incident and booked into the Tulare County Jail on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and felony child endangerment. He is being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail and this case remains under investigation.