



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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Los Angeles Gang Member Charged After High-Speed Chase, Crash

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced that charges have been filed against Jalen Amir Yoakum (DOB 08/07/2000), of Lancaster, following a theft investigation that led to a high-speed pursuit and violent crash in Camarillo. Yoakum, a documented Los Angeles County gang member, faces six felony charges, including evading police causing injury, reckless driving, and multiple firearm-related offenses. He also faces two misdemeanor hit-and-run charges and one count of petty theft. Additionally, special allegations and aggravating factors have been filed, including a strike prior and an allegation that the crime involved great violence.

On January 24, 2025, Ventura County Sheriff's deputies responded to a reported theft at Target in Camarillo. Surveillance footage showed Yoakum allegedly concealing merchandise before exiting without paying. When confronted by store security, he fled the scene. Detectives later located his vehicle nearby, where he is accused of attempting to evade arrest by ramming into an undercover law enforcement vehicle and leading deputies on a dangerous high-speed pursuit. The chase ended when he crashed into two vehicles on Santa Rosa Road, flipping one car and severely injuring its driver. Three other people in the vehicle also sustained injuries. Yoakum attempted to flee on foot but was taken into custody.

Following his arrest, authorities recovered a loaded firearm with an extended magazine believed to have been discarded by Yoakum during the pursuit. He is prohibited from possessing firearms. Yoakum also had outstanding warrants in Los Angeles County for robbery, gun possession, and a probation violation.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Hayley Moyer, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crimes Gangs Unit, is prosecuting the case.

Yoakum was arraigned on January 30, 2025, and pled not guilty to all counts. An early disposition conference is scheduled for February 10, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court. Yoakum remains in custody at Ventura County Jail with bail set at \$2 million.

Case: 2025002305

Defendant Information:

Jalen Amir Yoakum (DOB 08/07/2000)
Lancaster

Charges:

- VC 2800.3 – Evading an officer causing injury
- VC 23105(a) – Reckless driving with specified injury
- PC 29820(b) – After listed juvenile offenses, no firearms before age 30
- PC 25850(c)(6) – Carrying a loaded firearm, not registered owner of firearm
- PC 27545 – Unlawful transfer of a firearm
- PC 30305(a)(1) – Person prohibited from possessing a firearm possess ammunition
- PC 484(a) – Petty theft
- (2 counts) VC 20002(a) – Hit-and-run driving

Special Allegations:

- PC 667S2 – Prior strike
- PC 1170(h)(3) – Prior serious or violent felony
- PC 1192.7(c)(8) – Serious felony
- PC 12022.1(b) – Commission of a felony after release on bail or own recognizance
- CRC 4.421(a)(1) – The crime involved great violence
- CRC 4.421(b)(1) – Defendant has engaged in violent conduct
- CRC 4.421(b)(2) – Defendant's prior convictions
- CRC 4.421(b)(4) – Defendant was on probation, mandatory, supervision, post release community supervision, or parole when the crime was committed