



## COUNTY OF FRESNO

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### NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Mariah Spate Charged for Shooting While in a Sheriff's Patrol Car

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office has filed charges against Mariah Lyn Spate (30, of Fresno), for her actions that resulted in an Officer-Involved Shooting in Northwest Fresno.

It is alleged that on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Fresno County Sheriff's Deputies performed a traffic stop on a car containing defendant Mariah Spate. Ms. Spate was wanted on a felony warrant for assault with a firearm. After a preliminary search of her person, Ms. Spate was placed into a Fresno County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle to wait for a female deputy to perform a more thorough search. After being placed in the patrol vehicle, deputies moved to secure and search the vehicle Spate had been driving. As deputies prepared to approach Spate's vehicle, she slipped out of one of her handcuffs, produced a handgun concealed within her undergarments, and began to shoot from the window of the patrol vehicle. Deputies returned fire and Spate eventually threw her gun out of the patrol vehicle and was arrested on additional charges.

The Felony Complaint filed in the Superior Court alleges that Mariah Spate committed:

- One (1) Count of RESISTING ARREST BY FORCE [Penal Code §69]
- One (1) Enhancement of USE OF A FIREARM [Penal Code §12022.5(a)]
- One (1) Count of DISCHARGING FIREARM WITH GROSS NEGLIGENCE [Penal Code §246.3(a)]
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY A FELON [Penal Code §29800(a)]

If convicted of all charges and allegations, Spate faces a sentence of 13 years and 8 months in state prison.

Spate was arrested on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and thereafter booked into the Fresno County Jail. Statutory bail has been set at \$135,000. The arraignment is scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 8:30 AM in Department 33 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

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