

**Stolen Hives Located – Help Needed**  
Information Provided by Deputy Freeman



Alexis Martinez Becerra is the person identified and responsible for numerous hive thefts that have been occurring over the past few years in and around the Fresno and Madera County areas. He was found in possession of stolen hives last night. Bacerra isn't working alone and the identification of at least one other individual is being sought. A large amount of equipment was also located containing brands and markings confirmed from numerous thefts occurring over the last few years. Bacerra is transferring the stolen bees into equipment that he has altered by grinding out the owners brands and then painting over. Bacerra is then stenciling his business names on the boxes.

It is believed Bacerra is placing these hives into almond orchards around the area (possibly near Atwater) for pollination. It is unknown exactly where at this time, and if he is working with a broker or not. Be on the look out for hives marked with The Buzzing Bee Co. Madera CA, and Rivera R Apiary Madera CA. These are the markings he's placing on the stolen hives to claim as his own. Please contact detective Johnson at the Madera County Sheriff's Office at (559) 517-0504 with information on the whereabouts of Bacerra or any hives and equipment related to him.

**Update:** The Madera County Sheriff's Office has located stolen hives and equipment from approximately 6 separate hive thefts so far. Evidence has been located which indicates the suspect(s) have been altering the stolen boxes before painting over them, and then applying their own business names with stencils. Law Enforcement needs the assistance of beekeepers and property owners in locating these stolen beehives believed to be currently in almond orchards for pollination. Please look out for this equipment and immediately report it to detective Johnson at the Madera County Sheriff's Office.

**Roman Martynov – Caruthers – March 18/19th**

**Stolen:** 40 hives

**Location:** Caruthers

**When:** March 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Steve Godlin – Firebaugh – March 20th**

**Stolen:** 72 hives

**Location:** Firebaugh

**When:** March 20, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Michael Feist – Riverdale – March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Stolen:** 72 hives

**Location:** Riverdale/Fresno County

**When:** March 17, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Derek Lawrence – Fresno – March 4**

**Stolen:** 96 hives

**Location:** SW Corner of Ave 7 and Rd 23 NW in Fresno

**When:** March 4, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Mark Brady – Selma, Fresno - February 27**

**Stolen:** Two incidents, 72 singles and 144 singles

**Location:** Fresno County

**When:** February 27, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Vitality Yatchuk – Kettleman City – February 27**

**Stolen:** 48 hives

**Location:** Kettleman City

**When:** February 27, 2024

**Contact:** Kings County Sheriff's Department, 206-296-3311



**Troy Franks – Fresno – February 26**

**Stolen:** 130 hives, VOLK or backwards FR brand

**Location:** Fresno County

**When:** February 26, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Tim Hollman – Mendota – February 9th**

**Stolen:** 96 hives

**Location:** Mendota on Douglas and Adams, Fresno County,

**When:** February 9th, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Ken Fletcher – Selma – February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Stolen:** 72 hives, Stroope brands and painted names

**Location:** Selma, Fresno County

**When:** February 8th, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Cord Anderson – Kerman/Fresno – February 8th**

**Stolen:** 108 hives, 10 frame double deeps on 6 way pallets, multi colored branded with NOHR.

**Location:** Kerman/Fresno

**When:** February 8, 2024

**Contact:** Cord Anderson, 406-390-2384



**Andrew Beld – Firebaugh – January 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Stolen:** 96 hives. Suspect vehicle description is a 2013-2017 Chevy 3500 4 door flatbed, with a red and yellow sticker, and a yellow Hummerbee forklift.

**Location:** Firebaugh, Fresno County, near Manning and Interstate 5

**When:** January 31, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111

**Andy Strehlow – Firebaugh – January 31st**

**Stolen:** 96 hives branded with “Strehlow”, double deep hives on four way pallets. Strehlow is offering at \$100,000 reward for return of hives.

**Location:** Firebaugh, Fresno County, near Manning and Interstate 5

**When:** January 31, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff’s Department, 559-600-3111



**David Powell – Glenn County – January 31st**

**Stolen:** 20 hives from CR 20 and 45 in Glenn County. Appears to have been a single axle pickup with large tires and different tread between the front and rears. Removed by hand.

**Location:** Glenn County, CR 20 and 45

**When:** January 31, 2024

**Contact:** Glenn County Sheriff’s Department, 530-934-6441

**Victor Lazo – Chowchilla, Madera County – January 28th**

**Stolen:** 168 hives stolen out of an orchard in the Chowchilla area. 10 frame double hives, white, with HHI branded on them.

**Location:** Chowchilla, Madera County

**When:** January 28, 2024

**Contact:** Victor Lazo, 979-215-0235



**Scott Ammend – Coalinga – January 21st**

**Stolen:** 120 hives and a 2021 black Hummerbee and a 2017 yellow Humberbee with a 22 foot Big Tex trailer

**Location:** Coalinga, Fresno County

**When:** January 21, 2024

**Contact:** Fresno County Sheriff's Department, 559-600-3111



**Buzz Landon – Richvale – January 23-29**

**Stolen:** 16 hives stolen by hand

**Location:** Richvale, Butte County

**When:** January 23-29, 2024

**Contact:** Butte County Sheriff's Department, 530-538-7321

**Mark Sperry – Coalinga, Fresno County – January 11th**

**Stolen:** 120 hives. Sperry/Sperry Honey and Kunert branded on some of the boxes. 10 frame, 4 way pallets with white boxes. Some of the handhelds are painted blue.

**Location:** Coalinga, Fresno County

**When:** January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Contact:** Mark Sperry, 701-261-6332

