



UPDATE: At the time of last night's arrest, the woman that identified herself as Natalie Fontes gave officers a false name. The finger print system was down last night, therefore Navasota PD was not informed of her identity until this morning Justice Vargas (22) is the woman's real name and is now facing an additional charge of fraudulent use of identifying information.

Press Release: At 6 p.m. yesterday, the Navasota Police Department received a call to Prosperity Bank on Washington Ave. for a report of a fraudulent check.

As officers arrived, a Dodge flatbed truck sped away and initiated a pursuit. The pursuit led onto Highway 90 and continued on FM 3090. Grimes County Sheriffs Office assisted while the truck made it to Anderson, TX heading south on Hwy 90 towards Navasota. The truck arrived in Navasota and started on Highway 6 Northbound. The truck came to a stop at Highway 6 and William D Fitch. Bryan-College Station Officers and Department of Public Safety assisted.

The driver, Derek Whitehead (40), was arrested for forgery and evading in a motor vehicle. Two passengers accompanied Whitehead. Natalie Fontes (18) was arrested for forgery and fail to show identification. The second passenger was released.

All three subjects are from Fort Worth, TX.

Subjects confessed to stealing checks from a business's mailbox south of Navasota, washing and forging the checks, and attempting to cash a check.

Officers located several other stolen checks inside the truck belonging to victims in other cities.

Investigation is ongoing and additional charges are pending.

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