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CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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Caldwell Police responded to a radio call of a suspicious vehicle in the 900 block of Specht. Upon arrival, officers located the vehicle and contacted three people inside. After an investigation, officers discovered the passenger, a male juvenile gang member, was illegally in possession of a firearm. He was arrested for being a minor in possession of a firearm and another misdemeanor charge.

The woman in the car, Estreya Casados, was also arrested. She was charged with providing false information to an officer, driving without privileges, possession of controlled substance and paraphernalia with intent to use. The third occupant, Clemente Vela, was hostile and physically violent during the incident. He spit in the faces of officers and officers sustained injuries during their confrontation with Vela. He was booked into the Canyon County Jail for assault and battery (F) and resisting arrest.

Both the minor and Clemente are known gang members. It is important to note that our officers were attacked and sustained injuries while dealing with these dangerous gang members, we commend their actions and their efforts in getting these criminals off of the streets. They were treated and released from the hospital.

"Whenever a Caldwell Police Officer uses force to overcome resistance, protect themselves and others, or effect an arrest, the force used will be investigated and scrutinized to ensure it meets or exceeds the standards of our agency. In this incident, our officers were confronted by armed gang members who selfishly attempted to obstruct the law and terrorize our community. Our brave men and women in uniform acted selflessly and courageously when confronted by these cowardly individuals and used a minimal amount of force necessary to overcome this violent attack. We are proud of our men and women and will continue to fight for our community said," Rex Ingram, Caldwell Chief of Police.