

# Oakdale Police News Release



## For Immediate Release

**Contact:** PIO Janeen Yates (209) 847-2231

**Release Date:** October 16, 2019

**Case Number:**



## Halloween Safety Tips

### NEWS RELEASE

**Oakdale Police Department**  
Media Relations  
Office of the Chief of Police  
245 North Second Avenue, Oakdale, CA 95361

**Oakdale, CA** – Police offer Halloween safety tips and locations for safe Halloween events.

As Halloween approaches, Oakdale Police Department wanted to remind the community of the following Trick or Treat safety tips and safe Halloween events occurring in Oakdale. The City of Oakdale is committed to ensuring a safe and enjoyable Halloween for those taking part in activities in Oakdale.

The annual City of Oakdale Halloween parade will be on October 31, 2019 beginning at 5:00 p.m. the parade begins on Gilbert Avenue alongside Oakdale High School and continues eastbound “G” Street ending at the Gene Bianchi Community Center. Children are encouraged to take part in the parade in costume. There will be activities and snacks at the Community Center following the parade. There are Trunk or Treat events occurring at the following locations: Infinite Athletics Cheer & Tumbling located at 628 Delano Drive from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Life Community Church located at 105 East G. Street from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

If you plan to Trick or Treat through neighborhoods please remember the following safety tips:

- Adults accompany children along planned safe routes

- Inspect all candy thoroughly before consuming
- Do not go into a house or car with a stranger
- Carry a flashlight and/or wear something reflective
- Avoid unlit houses
- If you see anything suspicious, contact police via 911 or at (209) 847-2231

Last year on Halloween, Oakdale Police received a single alleged report of tampered candies. After thorough investigation, involving various forensic examinations, including DNA processing, police determined the report to be a hoax. Matthew Blackcloud, 32 years old, was arrested and charged with 347(b) PC – False Report of Food Tampering. Blackcloud's case is currently pending prosecution with the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office.

Police indicate tampered candy reports are rare and more often than not turn out to be hoaxes. Police are reminding parents and children to remain vigilant in their Halloween plans to help maximize a safe holiday experience and to take advantage of the safe Halloween events being offered. Additional police patrol will be deployed throughout the evening to assist with events and traffic safety.