

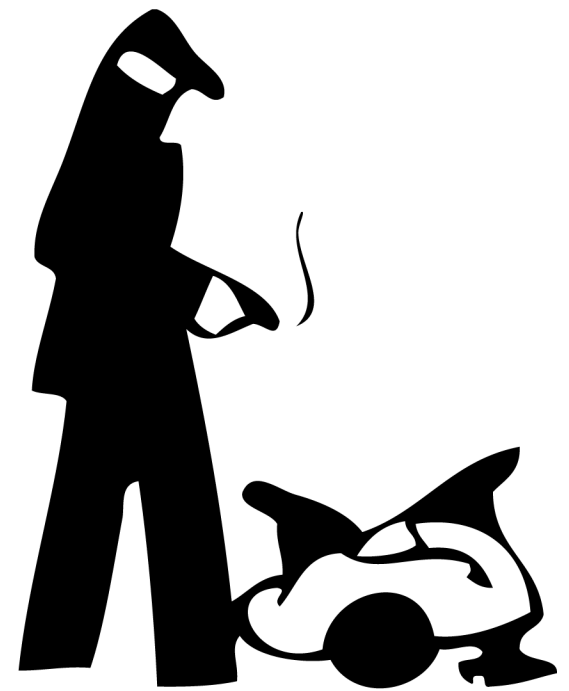
The following is a collection of news articles that we have compiled in regards to people fighting back against the police in the Central Valley, from 2008 - 2010. The timeframe of these actions is based around the information that is available in the local journal, Modesto Anarcho, which documents news from a combative, working-class perspective. Most of these stories come from the newspapers and television channels owned by the rich, but some of them come from personal experiences and independent sources. It must be stated that every time poor and working people attempt to struggle against the conditions they are faced with, they will come up against the police. Start a wildcat strike at your work. Attempt to stall or resist an eviction. Occupy a building at school against fee hikes, closure, or budget cuts. Try to stop agents from deporting you. The police are the front line of defense for the rich, standing against us bettering ourselves and fighting our day-to-day miseries. The cops ensure that the world stays the way it is. The police are not neutral. When they murder and beat us and they are doing so with tax money that has been extorted from us by the government and given power by politicians that (some of us) vote for.

While some of these actions may seem spectacular, such as the riots or the occupation of buildings, it must be kept in mind that resistance to police takes many forms. Revolt happens on both sides of the prison walls, as inmates go on hunger strike or riot, while those on the outside hold demonstrations and send in letters and reading material. It can be seen in the urban uprising against police brutality, as well as friends raising money to keep someone they know out of jail. It occurs when people refuse to talk or snitch to police and instead try to handle their own problems in their own neighborhoods. It also means taking pride in our communities and trying to stop crime and violence from happening within them; creating autonomy and power outside of the police and the government. Whatever happens, and whatever the police have done to us, our friends, or our communities: people in the Central Valley have and will continue to fight the police.

modestoanarcho.org

Ongoing Police Repression in the Central Valley

Cops Pigs Murderers



2008-2010

2008 Police Repression

In April, police arrest a large group of Native American students at D.Q. University outside of Davis. They had been occupying their school to keep it open. In July, Jesus Carrizales, a High School student from Fresno was shot after attacking an officer with a bat. In August, Joey Pinasco, outrunning the police in Escalon, is shot with little to no warning. Friends and family start Justice for Joey website.

In December, Melecio Arquine was shot to death by Stockton police when he came out of his home armed, in a high-crime neighborhood, during the arrest of another man. Later that month, Modesto Police and ICE agents shoot a man with beanbags and tasers who is with his two children, after he refuses to submit to deportation.

2009

In January, mentally-ill Richie Robles wielding a sword in Downtown Modesto was shot and killed by police from the safety of their cars. Later, police would state that the man was making threatening moves toward them; while family members claimed otherwise. Later that month, Fresno police are caught on tape savagely beating a homeless man, Glen Beaty. In February, police taser a man to death in Stockton after responding to a call from a friend that he was mentally unstable. Garrett Wade Jones Jr. died in front of his home in unincorporated Stockton.

In April, homeless squatters in Sacramento were evicted from a tent city and forced to move into the Arco Arena. Many people's property and make-shift homes were destroyed. In July, Modesto police are called out in riot gear to a downtown night club after a fight broke out inside. Police attacked party goers, beating many.

In September, John Cooper is shot by Fresno Police after he calls and states that he is suicidal. He is shot dead after pointing what turns out to be a fake gun at police. Lonnie Graham is shot by two police later in September, after coming out of his home with a cell phone. Later that month, Merced police taser a 40-year-old black man in a wheelchair during a domestic dispute. The man claims that police violently detained him, leaving him with his pants around his ankles for hours before finally taking him in. In December, Modesto Police shoot and kill Mentally-ill Elizabeth Kropp. During the year, Craig Prescott, Manuel Dante Dent, and Alton Warren were all tazed to death in Stanislaus County Jail.

2010

Between January and March, Campus police at Modesto Junior College and CSU Stanislaus work with administrators to shut down meetings, harass students, and threaten organizers with arrest for working to stop budget cuts, layoffs, and fee hikes. During the year, three more inmates die in the Stanislaus County Jail. In July, James Rivera is shot and killed in Stockton. In September, Modesto police and Stanislaus County Sheriffs kill Francisco Moran in east Modesto and Rita Elias in West Side. Francisco Moran is shot and killed after police responded to a domestic call, and claimed that he was armed with a knife. It later turns out that Moran had a wooden spoon. Elias is shot by an off-duty Sheriff during an argument as the officer was attempting to help her landlord parents evict Rita who was living in a unit that they owned.

Riot, Escape, Attack, Defend: 2008 Resistance to the Police

In January, for the second time in the year, a group of inmates escape Merced County Jail by crawling through a ceiling vent in the bathroom of the jails dorms. Later that month in Modesto, people surround a Sheriff's Deputy who was harassing someone and begin hurling bottles at the officer. Police had to call in more backup and deployed tasers. In March in downtown Modesto, a crowd of 1,000 - 1,500 club goers that police attempt to disperse confronts the authorities, throwing bottles and chanting "fuck the police" for close to half an hour. As many as 100 officers were called in to quell the riot. In April, party-goers in Stockton riot after police began harassing birthday party goers. People fought police for up to 20 minutes, until police backup put down the riot. In May, several inmates escape from the downtown Stockton courthouse after one of the inmates pretends to suffer a seizure.

In July, family members and friends protest the treatment of inmates facing brutal and violent raids inside the county jail in Merced. In November, a homeless man throws bottles at police as they move in to harass him for pan-handling near the mall. In December, Manteca police are forced out of a bar, the Pub, as they attempted to harass a patron. More police are brought in to subdue the crowd and one woman is taken to the hospital after being sprayed with mace.

2009

In February, Danny Armenta attempts to steal large amounts of food from a grocery store, and later fights with police and their dog as they finally arrest him. Later that month in Fresno, students hold a protest against ICE police at a job fair. In April, people in West Side Modesto surround a man who has stolen a car in the neighborhood and begin confronting him when a police officer came upon the group with a gun drawn. The officer stated that he could "kill anyone there." The crowd quickly disarmed the police officer, broke his radio and began unarresting those who had been placed under arrest. Snitches that called the police ensured that other cops quickly arrived on the scene. Later that month, a group that posted a statement online broke out the windows of the downtown eviction office, stating their opposition to the company which "help the pigs evict people from their homes..."

In May, a man attacked the Merced police station with rocks, breaking out various windows. In October, 75 people march and protest against Fresno police murdering Lonnie Graham. Graham was shot by two police officers after he came out of his home with a cell phone. In November, People again protest outside of the Fresno police department, calling for the firing of the police chief. During the demonstration, an off duty cop pushes a young child as he becomes aggressive with the crowd.

2010

In January, homeless people in Fresno squatting vacant lots resist evictions by the police, and when forced to move, take over new tracts of land. Later that month, members of the Central Valley Miwok Tribe and their supporters occupy their foreclosed home/office in Stockton, barricading the gate and holding back police. The bank calls off the eviction in less than a day. In February, supporters of needle exchange volunteers facing charges in Modesto rallied before their court appearance, demanding a dropping of the charges that steamed from a sting operation launched by the local Sheriff's Department. Later that month, anti-police graffiti is seen throughout Merced, reading "The Police Work for the Government - Not the People." Messages left on a popular police eatery read, "Fascists eat here."

In April, a group in Modesto calling itself "Bee Killaz" filled coins slots of Modesto Bee newspaper boxes with glue, for running a story that supported the police in rounding up and arresting sex workers in the local area, and also publishing the names of the arrested women. Later that month, the snitch that worked with the Sheriff's Department in shutting down the local needle exchange in Modesto is run out of the Earth Day festival.

In June, a fire started in the bathroom at the honor farm in Stanislaus County allows several inmates to escape. Later that month, a wave of graffiti hits downtown Modesto, leaving banks and various businesses beholden the messages, "Justice for Oscar Grant!," and "Fuck Pigs." In July, a Modesto man in an interrogation cell breaks the sprinklers and floods the police station. Police end up having to evacuate the entire building for the day. In Modesto in September, protests and marches break out against the murders of Francisco Moran of East Modesto and Rita Elias of West Modesto. Protestors hold large rallies in front of the police station and in West Side Modesto. At one rally, people march on the down town and outside of the County Jail.

Today's Pigs, Tomorrow's Bacon!