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## Deputies jail Winton suspect in ID theft

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WINTON -- Sheriff's detectives arrested a man they say allegedly used a stolen bank account number to pay bills on the Internet.

Victor Hugo Ochoa, 27, was arrested around 10 a.m. on Tuesday when sheriff's detectives served a search warrant at his Winton home in the 7400 block of Almond Avenue.

Sheriff's Detective John Mussotto, assigned to the Sacramento Valley High Tech Crime Task Force, said the arrest was the result of a woman who reported someone had her checking account number.

The victim said the thief used this information to transfer \$4,000 from her account to pay bills electronically on the Internet.

Investigators following up on the Winton name and address listed on the forged checks found Ochoa -- allegedly using a fake name -- had lived at the residence, but had moved to another house a few blocks away, Mussotto said.

Unable to find Ochoa at his new address, a search warrant was obtained and served on Tuesday at the new address.

Detectives reportedly found personal information belonging to other people, as well as the name he allegedly used to transfer funds from the victim's bank account.

Ochoa reportedly told investigators that he had obtained the victim's account number from one of her checks that was given to him by a friend.

He was booked into Merced County Jail on suspicion of willfully using another person's identity for an unlawful purpose and for forgery.

He remained in custody on Wednesday in lieu of \$50,000 bail, said sheriff's spokesman Scott Dover.

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