

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Tuesday, May 21, 2002, 1100 A.M.

### **SUBJECT:**

Sutter Sheriff's Deputies conduct decoy and shoulder tap investigations

### **TEXT:**

Sutter County Sheriff's Deputies conducted undercover alcohol investigations utilizing underage sheriff's cadets. Deputies conducted shoulder tap investigations, where the underage cadets approach adults and attempt to get the adults to purchase alcohol for them. The cadets approached two males who agreed to go into the AM/PM Store at 1332 Bogue Road and purchase them alcohol. A short time later the males met with the two males and were furnished the alcohol. Both men were cited and released on charges of furnishing alcohol to minors. They were identified as: **Trinidad Hernandez Gomes**, 45, of the 3400 block of Township Road, Yuba City and **Vincente Guzman Ruiz**, 26, also on the 3400 block of Township Road, Yuba City. A second shoulder tap investigation was conducted at the Quick-N-Stop, 2590 Buttehouse Road, Yuba City. A male subject was contacted outside the store and agreed to purchase alcohol for the cadets. After turning over the alcohol to the cadets the male was cited and released for furnishing alcohol to a minor. He was identified as **Thomas Luis Nunez**, 42, of the 2200 block of Melba Street, Yuba City. Additional investigations were attempted at the Quick Stop, 1620 Lincoln Road and Mike's Mart, 1591 Franklin Road, Yuba City, but the patrons refused to buy alcohol for the cadets.

Two decoy operations where the cadet attempts to directly purchase alcohol from the clerk were attempted at Question Market, 973 N. Township Road, Yuba City and from Mr. Paul's Market, 2255 Buttehouse Road, Yuba City. Both clerks refused to sell the alcohol and should be commended for their actions.

The Sheriff's Department was assisted in this operation by members of the State Department of Alcohol Beverage Control. The Sheriff's Department, as part of a grant overseen by ABC, routinely conducts alcohol related investigations and training for business owners in partnership with the Department of Alcohol Beverage Control.

### **CONTACT PERSON AND TELEPHONE NUMBER:**

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