MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Tuesday, May 22, 2001, 1500 hours

Contact Person

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Subject

Sheriff's Tobacco Decoy Operation nets 3 arrests

Text

The Sutter County Sheriff's Department conducted a Tobacco Decoy Operation at six stores throughout the county last night. Under-aged Sheriff's Cadets acting in an undercover capacity, entered stores and attempted to purchase tobacco products. Three store clerks failed to obtain identification from the Cadet Decoys and sold tobacco products to them.

The following clerk/owners were cited for violation of Section 308a of the California Penal Code for furnishing tobacco products to a person under the age of 18, which is a misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of six months in the County Jail and a \$1,000 fine:

<u>Harinder Singh Takher</u>, age 43, of Yuba City, while working at the Oswald Market, 1144 Oswald Road, Yuba City.

<u>Tina Harriet Snyder</u>, age 49, of Pleasant Grove, while working at the Pleasant Grove Market, 5515 Pleasant Grove Road.

Ali Yehya Mohsen, age 51, of Robbins, while working at the Robbins Mercantile, 4895 Del Monte Avenue, Robbins.

The clerks at the following stores checked the Cadet Decoys for identification and refused to sell to them. They are to be commended for their diligence:

Dhami's Mini Mart, 1281 Obanion Road, Yuba City.

99 Chevron, 4142 Sawtelle Avenue, Yuba City.

Neighborhood Market, 4313 South George Washington Blvd., Yuba City.

The Sutter County Sheriff's Department will continue to conduct enforcement operations in order to reduce the number of incidents where tobacco products are sold to minors in Sutter County.