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CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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POLICE MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: November 16, 2022
To: San Diego Media
From: Chula Vista Police Department
Contact: Sergeant Anthony Molina, Public Information Officer
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Subject: CITYWIDE SEX OFFENDER AUDIT CONDUCTED IN CHULA VISTA

Message: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On the morning of Thursday, November 10th, 2022, a citywide audit of registered sexual offenders was conducted in Chula Vista. Over 40 law enforcement officers, including every detective of the Chula Vista Police Department Criminal Investigations Division as well as members of the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Task Force, San Diego County Sheriff's Department, San Diego District Attorney's Office, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and the United States Marshals Service, came together to conduct the audit.

California categorizes sex offenders into three tiers (Tiers 1-3). Tiers are assigned based on risk level, with tier 1 representing the lowest risk to the public and tiers 2 and 3 progressively representing more of a risk. For more information on sex registration tiering, the public can visit the California Department of Justice website, or reference their frequently asked questions document: <https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/csor/registrant-faqs.pdf>.

There are almost 300 people registered as sex offenders in Chula Vista. 180 of them are categorized under tiers 2 and 3. Detectives are assigned to verify their compliance with state law (Penal Code 290) on a regular basis, making sure they're providing true and up-to-date information about their residences, phone numbers, vehicles, and employment. Because of this coordinated, multi-agency effort, officials were able to conduct home visits at all listed addresses for tiers 2 and 3 registered sex offenders at one time.

The audit took place from 7 A.M. to 12 P.M. Out of 186 residences visited, 151 compliance checks were completed and 35 are pending an additional visit. Of those completed, 138 registrants were verified as being in compliance, 1 was arrested for an unrelated felony warrant, and 13 are still being evaluated by detectives. The Department will seek arrest warrants for those determined to be out of compliance.

The operation was one of many strategies that local law enforcement uses to keep our communities safe and hold offenders accountable. The Chula Vista Police Department wants to thank all participating agencies for partnering with them to protect the community of Chula Vista. Members of the public are encouraged to visit California Department of Justice Megan's Law Website at <https://www.meganslaw.ca.gov/> for more information about sex offenders in their area.

Prepared By: Sgt. Anthony Molina
Copies Sent To: San Diego Media

Approved By: Capt. Phil Collum
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