

BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER



DATE : 11-11-2011

RELEASED BY : Sgt Marty Rolph

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On November 9, 2011 the Butte County Sheriff's Office Special Enforcement Unit along with members from the Butte Interagency Narcotic's Taskforce served a search warrant at seven different locations in the 3100 block of Highway 32, and another search warrant in the 700 block of Northgraves Avenue, Chico.

Deputies serving the search warrants found a commercial indoor marijuana growing operation along with a large commercial processing and storage facility in several industrial buildings in the 3100 block of Highway 32, Chico. Deputies located five indoor marijuana grow sites and two drying and processing sites at the HWY 32 locations. Deputies on scene were able to show that although the marijuana growing operation was trying to appear in compliance with Proposition 215, all the marijuana that was being grown was for sales and profit.

Deputies searching the HWY 32 locations contacted and ultimately arrested Jesse James Montgomery 34 of Cohasset, Ryan Michael Gosev 37 of Paradise, and Lee Arthur Stone 51 of Eureka. Montgomery and Gosev were arrested for cultivation and sales of marijuana. Both have a bail of \$100,000.00. Stone was arrested for cultivation of marijuana with a bail of \$50,000.00.

Later that day, Deputies served a search warrant in the 700 block of Northgraves Avenue where Deputies found another large storage area of processed and packaged marijuana and an outdoor cultivation site.

From the search warrants, Deputies located and confiscated 1.43 pounds of concentrated cannabis, 538.58 pounds of processed marijuana bud, 360 pounds of unfinished marijuana bud, and 426 growing marijuana plants.



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