

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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S.A.F.E.

SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT

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SAFE TASK FORCE ACHIEVES LOWEST NON-COMPLIANCE RATE FOR SEX OFFENDERS IN COUNTY HISTORY

RIVERSIDE: In April 2010, the Riverside County Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) task force achieved the lowest non-compliance rate for sex offenders in the history of Riverside County dropping to 3%.

The SAFE task force was created in November 2006 and is tasked with monitoring, investigating and prosecuting sex offenders living in Riverside County. Prior to November 2006, the non-compliance rate was estimated around 25% and no collective effort was being made to conduct compliance investigations leaving the entire sex-offender population essentially on their own "honor system." Since the creation of the SAFE task force, the non-compliance rate has dramatically improved over time until last month when the team achieved the lowest non-compliance rate ever.

"Our county is not going to be a place for sex offenders to hide and prey on more victims," said Riverside County District Attorney Rod Pacheco. "They will be investigated, monitored, watched, tracked and searched so that the moment they fail to comply we can prosecute them and send them to prison."

The SAFE task force is made possible through the collaboration of sixteen multi-disciplined law enforcement agencies.

There are 3,269 sex offenders living in Riverside County. Last year, the SAFE task force conducted 4,643 compliance investigations, served 200 search warrants, made 649 arrests and filed 297 criminal cases with the District Attorney's Office.

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