

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



S.A.F.E.

SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT

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SAFE TASK FORCE DROPS IN ON HOMES OF 172 SEX OFFENDERS, ARREST 4

Riverside, CA – Yesterday, August 11, 2010, investigators with the Riverside County Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) task force conducted a wide-ranging, random check of registered sex offenders residing within the ZIP Code 92570 in the city of Perris. The task force checked 172 addresses of known sex offenders and arrested four people.

The four men, Ted Auguston, 55; Ray Blaylock, 59; Robert Gallardo, 59; and Mark Ponce, 44, were each arrested for being in violation of the terms and conditions of their parole.

The primary objective of this operation was to determine the accuracy of the addresses provided by each registered sex offender. This operation was also intended to impress upon the registrants the necessity of keeping their registration records current and to reinforce that law enforcement officials are actively monitoring their compliance.

During the course of the operation, investigators made face-to-face contact with 72 registered sex offenders at their residences. The residences of another 31 registered sex offenders were able to be verified by task force members after seeing items of dominion and control or speaking to neighbors. The task force collected DNA samples from six registrants and also discovered that six other registrants were no longer living at the address they had previously provided to law enforcement. The SAFE task force will conduct additional investigation in an effort to locate and arrest those six sex offenders who were no longer living at the addresses they provided.

The SAFE team is a collaboration of multi-disciplined law enforcement agencies including the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside County Probation Department, California State Parole, California Department of Justice, Banning Police Department and Corona Police Department.

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