Tehama County Sheriff's Office

502 Oak Street, Red Bluff, Ca 96080 (530) 529-7900 DAVE HENCRATT, SHERIFF-CORONER

PRESS INFORMATION

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Enforcement of retail tobacco sales laws.

GENERAL LOCATION: Los Molinos/City of Red Bluff

DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT: November 19, 2020 & January 28, 2021

VICTIM NAME: State of California

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT:

On November 19, 2020 and January 28, 2021, The Tehama County Sheriff's Office, Red Bluff Police Department and the Corning Police Department conducted a series of minor decoy operations in an effort to enforce laws prohibiting the sales of tobacco or tobacco products to persons under the age of 21 in accordance to California state law.

The operations were conducted in association with the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant. The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 (Proposition 56) provides local public agencies with funding to promote a healthier California by reducing illegal sales and marketing of cigarettes and tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to minors. The Office of the Attorney General makes these annual funds available to local law enforcement agencies and school districts through the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant Program

On November 19, 2020 Officers conducted 13 undercover operations in which a minor decoy entered 13 retail businesses within the unincorporated area of Tehama County and attempted to purchase tobacco or tobacco products. During this operation 5 businesses sold tobacco or tobacco products to the minor decoy in violation of California Penal Code 308-Sales of Tobacco to a Minor. The employees at the locations were issued citations.

On January 28, 2021 Officers conducted 15 undercover operations in which a minor decoy entered 15 retail businesses within the City of Red Bluff and attempted to purchase tobacco or tobacco products. During this operation 6 businesses sold tobacco or tobacco products to the minor decoy in violation of California Penal Code 308 Sales of Tobacco to a Minor. The employees at the locations were issued citations.