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Gary R. Stanton
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INFORMATION RELEASE

MARIJUANA ERADICATED IN GATES CANYON
Solano County Sheriff's Office

August 14, 2008

On Thursday, August 14, 2008 members of the Solano County Sheriff's Narcotics Team **Cal-MMET/Sol-NET** (California Methamphetamine Multi Jurisdictional Enforcement Team, Solano Narcotics Enforcement Team) partnered with Solano County Sheriff's **COPPS** (Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving) and were assisted by **CAMP** (Department of Justice-Campaign Against Marijuana Planting) conducted a marijuana eradication operation on the mountain range of Gates Canyon in unincorporated Solano County.

Based on intelligence provided by Cal-MMET, law enforcement officers were able to locate two illegal grow sites deeply hidden in the Vacaville mountain range within Gates Canyon off of Pleasants Valley Road. Personnel also located a small camp site with items left by the illegal growers and garden tenders. The items left behind are believed to be the property of Mexican national growers. No persons were found to be in the area at the time. Eradicated in today's operation was a total of 7,289 fully mature marijuana plants. The estimated street value of these illegal marijuana plants reaches over 36 million dollars. Operations began this morning at 6:00 A.M. and concluded at 2:00 P.M.

The sheriff's teams worked in collaboration with the State of California Department of Justice CAMP team, who transported personnel in and out of the canyon by way of helicopter. The helicopter air support and assistance proved immeasurable in airlifting the illegal plants out of the steep and rugged terrain. The marijuana was taken to an undisclosed location and destroyed. The Solano County Sheriff's Office takes a proactive and firm stance in the eradication of illegal marijuana within the County of Solano.

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