



530 Union Avenue • Suite 100 • Fairfield, CA 94533
Administration Offices (707)421-7000

Gary R. Stanton
Sheriff/Coroner

INFORMATION RELEASE

January 4, 2009

ESTIMATED THREE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MARIJUANA PLANTS SEIZED Solano County Sheriff's Office

On Tuesday evening a search warrant was executed on a residence in the City of Vallejo. At approximately 10:30 p.m. the Solano County Sheriff's Office Cal-MMET/Sol-NET unit (California Multi Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team/Solano Narcotics Enforcement Team) conducted the search on the 600 block of 6th street.

Upon entering the residence, law enforcement personnel quickly discovered an indoor marijuana grow site. Due to the significant number of marijuana plants the residence was seized and sealed. This morning the team re-entered the home and has concluded it to contain as many as 380 plants in a variety of sizes and stages. With the exception of one small bedroom and a half bath, the cultivation operated throughout all other areas of the home including the attic. The garden consisted of an automatic watering and lighting system requiring little effort on behalf of the grower. One person was taken into custody at the location. The estimated street value of the plants in this residence is that of approximately \$950,000. 64-year-old Alvaro Castro-Flores resident of the home was taken into custody on charges of cultivation of marijuana, sales, and transportation. A \$250,000 bail has been set.

During the efforts of this investigation a search warrant was also issued this afternoon for the residence directly next door on the 600 block of 6th street in the City of Vallejo. Once inside the home, the narcotics team discovered an additional 800 plants in the second residence. The entire home was being used specifically as a marijuana cultivation operation, equipped with a sophisticated lighting and watering system. The estimated street value of plants seized from both of these homes exceeds three million dollars. It is believed that the two indoor gardens are linked. The investigation is ongoing.

CONTACT:

Paula J. Toynbee
Public Information Officer
Solano County Sheriff's Office
707-784-1611
Ptoynbee@solanocounty.com

Dedicated to Community Service