



COUNTY OF YOLO  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Two more businesses sell Tobacco to undercover decoys**

*Woodland, CA. – March 11, 2010.* Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on February 13, 2010, a twenty- five year old Arbuckle woman, working at the DUNNIGAN GENERAL STORE located @ 3660 CR 99W, Dunnigan, CA, was arrested for selling tobacco to a sixteen year old under cover police decoy. Another arrest occurred on March 6, 2010, when a thirty-three year old Davis man was caught selling tobacco to a seventeen year old police decoy. This man was working at the OLIVE DRIVE MARKET, located at 1060 Olive Drive, in Davis, CA.

Investigators from the Yolo County District Attorney's office continue to conduct sting operations, funded entirely by licensing fees collected from those businesses who wish to sell tobacco within the County and the City of Davis. During these operations, the District Attorney's Office use different under aged minors as decoys, who volunteer their time to help prevent minor from gaining access to Tobacco. The decoys are supervised by peace officers and enter tobacco selling establishments for the express purpose of purchasing tobacco.

On 2/13/10 at 6:30 PM., a sixteen year old decoy entered DUNNIGAN GENERAL STORE and successfully purchased a single pack of Marlboro Lights. The clerk checked the ID by looking at a chart mounted on the cash register. Despite the chart and the ID card showing that the decoy didn't turn eighteen years old until 2011 the sale was allowed to occur. The clerk was issued a citation and ordered to appear in court on April 7, 2010.

On March 6, 2010, another decoy entered the OLIVE DRIVE MARKET at 12:35 PM. As in the previous case, the clerk asked for an ID, studied the ID for about five seconds and then rang up the sale of Marlboro 100's. The clerk was issued a citation and ordered to appear in court on April 28, 2010.

Jeff Reisig says that "We're doing everything we can to educate the businesses about their obligation to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors." Lt. Dan Stroski, who supervises the tobacco sting detail, says "That we are now providing pamphlets authored by DMV on how to check ID's and correctly interpret them. It is up to the business owners to train their employees so as to ensure minors are prevented from having access to tobacco products. With court fees and other penalties, Lt. Stroski says the average defendant leaves the court house owing \$900 in fines and penalties. It's simply too costly not to comply with this law."

As always, should these clerks be found guilty, the business owners will lose their privilege to sell tobacco for a period of ten days, and then have to purchase another license.

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