



COUNTY OF YOLO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DA's Environmental Unit Cracks Down on Polluters

(Woodland, CA) – June 21, 2010 – Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that the District Attorney's Environmental and Consumer Protection Unit, in conjunction with the Yolo County Department of Health Hazardous Materials Unit, the West Sacramento Police Department, the California Bureau of Automotive Repair, the Sacramento County Auto Theft Suppression Task Force, the Board of Equalization, the Employment Development Department, and the California Labor Commissioner conducted an industrial pollution prevention sweep in West Sacramento on June 15, 2010.

The purpose of the sweep was to identify businesses that illegally produce hazardous materials or waste that pollute the air and soil. The sweep also sought to combat illegal dumping and discharges causing pollution in the area.

The District Attorney's Office planned the operation following reports of illegal dumping and unlicensed activities in the area. Further investigation revealed evidence of certain businesses engaging in unfair business competition by trying to gain an advantage over law-abiding businesses. These businesses were failing to pay taxes on goods and services and were paying cash to their employees and thereby failing to pay tax withholdings.

As a result of the sweep, law enforcement issued citations for illegal storage and disposal of hazardous wastes, air quality violations, wage code violations, being unlicensed, failure to keep proper records, and municipal and fire code violations. Businesses cited include: Green Metal Fabricating, M&G Truck Service Aqua Systems, Vyarkh, Big Valley Metals, Georges Body Shop; M&M Mobile Repair, Lee W. Hallstrom (an individual), Hallerman Marine, OIG Towing and Auto Repair, Anita Auto Dismantling, Target's Specialty Products, and Dan's Service.

"We find that businesses who disregard legal requirement in one area of the law are typically ignoring other requirements such as wage and hour laws and creating a great disadvantage to employers who are in compliance," said California Labor Commissioner Angela Bradstreet. "Our involvement in this enforcement action found employers not providing required workers' comp coverage, illegally employing minors and not paying employees their proper wages. We will work with District Attorney Reisig to hold the violating employers accountable."

District Attorney Jeff Reisig acknowledged that his office is taking a proactive stance in combating pollution, illegal dumping and illegal business activities. "It's no surprise that many of the businesses that failed to follow pollution regulations are also neglecting their duty to pay taxes and to have the proper licenses to conduct business," stated Reisig. "These illegal acts

result in additional costs to the public and put law-abiding business at a real disadvantage. We will continue to conduct operations such as this to root out the offenders.”

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