

COUNTY OF YOLO OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Regional Agencies Band Together to Target Sex Offenders Nearly 9 out of 10 sex offenders were in compliance

Woodland, CA – June 27, 2013- Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that during the past two days, Yolo County law enforcement conducted compliance checks on over 100 sexual offenders who live in the County. This annual program, called "Operation Vigilance," started five years ago with the goal to protect Yolo County citizens by ensuring that sex offenders who live in the County are complying with the laws and probation directives. Overall 86% of the sex offenders investigated were in compliance.

This year 120 law enforcement personnel from 15 local, state, and federal agencies investigated 110 of Yolo County's sexual offenders. Most of these offenders were previously convicted of rape, child molestation and possession of child pornography. Ten sex offenders were arrested for various violations, including possessing pornographic material, possessing children's clothing or possessing drugs or alcohol.

What is unique about "Operation Vigilance" is that specialized computer forensic examiners analyze computer devices of sex offenders during the home visit. Computer Forensic specialists from the Yolo County District Attorney's Office, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Sacramento Valley High Tech Task Force and the Federal Bureau of Investigation worked together to conduct these specialized searches. While officers are making home visits and face-to-face contacts with registered sex offenders, the forensic experts searched digital storage- and internetenabled devices utilizing specialized computer software that simplifies the analysis of these items. A total of 214 such devices were searched and 22 items were seized during this two-day operation.

District Attorney Jeff Reisig praised the efforts of all law enforcement agencies working in the County who monitor sex offenders. "The fact that nearly 9 out of 10 of our sex offenders were in compliance shows that collectively we have been successful on a daily basis of supervising sex offenders in the County," said Reisig. "But each year during Operation Vigilance we catch a number of these offenders through face-to-face contacts and because of the efforts of our highly trained computer forensic experts."

The Yolo County District Attorney's Office Child Sexual Predator Unit coordinated Operation Vigilance. This Unit provides hi-tech forensic services to all Yolo County law enforcement agencies.

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