

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 16, 2023 Contact: Beth Gabor Email: Beth.Gabor@YoloCounty.org

Illegal Cannabis Cultivation Operation Shut Down

(Woodland, CA) – On March 15, the Yolo County Cannabis Unit shut down an illegal cannabis cultivation operation in Guinda.

In collaboration with the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, Code Enforcement and the Building Division, an inspection warrant was served to a property located on State Highway 16 in the Capay Valley community of Guinda to inspect a building suspected of illegally growing cannabis. The inspection confirmed an illegal cannabis grow operation on the property with over 1,000 plants in varying stages of growth.

In addition to finding the illegal cannabis grow, multiple building code violations were observed involving electrical, plumbing, fire, mechanical, accessibility and occupancy. Code Enforcement has yellow-tagged the building (notice of an unsafe building) for an electrical hazard and PG&E has been asked to cut power to the building.

This was the first inspection warrant issued under the Cannabis Unit's new illegal cannabis abatement program. A Notice of Violation has been issued to the property owner to bring the building up to current code and to cease the illegal cannabis operation. For each day that the property is in violation, penalties will be assessed up to \$10,000 per day for the unlicensed cultivation and up to \$1,000 per day for each building code violation.

"I am proud of the work that the Cannabis Unit has done to develop and implement an illegal cannabis abatement program," said Interim Community Services Director Leslie Lindbo. "It is important that we work to eliminate these illegal operations for both the safety of the public and in fairness to our licensed cannabis cultivation operators who are being undercut by the illicit cannabis market. I want to thank all our partners in the Cannabis Unit, Building Division, Code Enforcement and the Sheriff's Office who were key in making this operation a success."

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