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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Youth Decoys assist in yet another arrest

(Woodland, CA) – April 6, 2009 District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on April 4, 2009, a Davis woman, working at RITE AID STORE # 6197 located at 2135 Cowell Blvd., in Davis, CA, was arrested for selling tobacco to a sixteen year old under cover police decoy. Investigators from the Yolo County District Attorney’s office conducted a sting operation, which is funded entirely by licensing fees collected from businesses who wish to sell tobacco in the City of Davis.

During the operation, the District Attorney’s Office used members from the YUFA STAR (Youth United for Action Showing Tobacco Ain’t Right) as decoys. The decoys, supervised by peace officers, entered seven tobacco selling establishments in Davis to attempt the purchase of tobacco products. At 1210 P.M. two sixteen year old police decoys entered RITE AID and successfully purchased a single pack of cigarettes.

Jeff Reisig says that “The message is simple, check those identification cards.” Lt. Dan Stroski, who supervises the tobacco sting detail, says “despite having computerized equipment to help block the sale of tobacco to minors, this clerk mistyped the decoy’s date of birth into the computer by eighty-four years. Thus, allowing the sale to occur.”

The offending clerk was issued a citation and ordered to appear in court on May 14, 2009 at the Yolo County Superior Court. Should the clerk plea or be found guilty, he/ she could receive a fine of up to \$200, and the store can lose the privilege of selling tobacco for ten days.

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