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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Taxi Cab Drivers Busted at Sacramento International Airport

(Woodland, CA) – Sacramento and Yolo County law enforcement agencies today announced a multi-agency effort aimed at investigating illegal taxi cabs operating at the Sacramento International Airport. Participating agencies include the Sacramento County Sheriffs Department, Yolo and Sacramento County District Attorneys' offices and Yolo and Sacramento County's Weights and Measurements Department. The undercover investigation known as "Operation Road Runner" was initiated after the Sacramento International Airport received a tip from the Taxi Owners Association (SITOA).

The undercover operation concluded this week at the Sacramento International Airport. Through "Operation Road Runner," undercover operatives and detectives investigated taxi cab drivers who were transporting passengers without being properly licensed. Licenses and regulations ensure the safety of passengers who rely on this mode of transportation. Cab drivers found in violation were ordered to immediately discontinue operations until further corrective actions to safeguard the public could be imposed. The operation identified two illegal taxi companies operating three unlicensed operators, and nineteen licensing and regulatory violations.

Captain Doug Lee of the Sheriffs Airport Division stated, "It is a public safety concern if there are unlicensed and uninsured taxi operators working within our airport or within our community. We will take whatever steps necessary, as a licensing authority, to protect the public from these illegal operations and operators."

Dave Lazier Chief Sealer of Sacramento County Weights and Measurements, who also participated in the operation reports "Consumers are protected by sealed meters not subject to tampering and posted rates required of all taxicabs wherever they operate. Without this protection consumers are subject to the coyote rates charged by an unlicensed operator with no recourse."

A joint statement issued by Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office stated "this multi-agency effort once again proves that collaborative efforts across county lines are critical, particularly in these difficult economic times. By working together we have the ability to investigate and respond quickly and efficiently. "Operation Road Runner" was a successful operation that protects the consumers who live in our counties as well as visitors who rely on our airport taxi services."

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