

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
FIELD OPERATIONS REGION II
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INTER-DEPARTMENT OPERATION NETS NUMEROUS ARRESTS AND GUNS

More than 250 law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Department, Department of Probation, Pasadena Police, Department Children and Family Services MART, along with Narcotics and ATF investigators conducted Operation DISARM where more than 160 locations were searched for persons, on probation, for firearm related offenses. These probationers are prohibited from possessing firearms. In total, 34 people were arrested for possessing firearms or other charges and 23 guns were recovered.

All locations were in areas from the Fifth Supervisorial District, as the operation was requested by Supervisor Antonovich to ensure persons on probation were complying with their conditions of probation. Locations along the San Gabriel Valley, Santa Clarita, Sherman Oaks, Glendale, Pasadena and the Antelope Valley were searched during this operation. Also included as targets in the operation were gang members and juveniles.

Locations and individuals subject to search and arrest were identified by the Los Angeles County Probation Department's DISARM team and the Sheriff's Department's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Bureau. The planning for this large scale operation has been months in the works. Sheriff's Department Captain, Robert Tubbs said, "This operation shows what inter-department cooperation can accomplish. The mission today was not only to arrest individuals known to be in violation of their probation, but to also ensure that others are fully complying with the terms and conditions of their early release program." Although this is not the first of these types of operations, Captain Tubbs said that because of the success of these operations it definitely will not be the last and other operations are in the planning stage.

While conducting a search in the 1900 block of East Avenue R-3, in Palmdale, two individuals ran from task force members. 22 year old Nathaniel Hayes and 21 year old Dominic Mervin were arrested for outstanding probation warrants. Neither were the subject of the planned search at that location.

Chief Deputy Probation Officer Calvin Remington, "I'm very pleased with the results of today's operation and extremely proud of our courageous DISARM probation officers who routinely put their own safety on the line to protect our neighborhoods. It's collaborations like these that provide the best service to local communities."

In the 2200 block of Florencita Avenue, in Montrose, Milton Lucas, a 26 year old male was arrested by task force personnel when they discovered ecstasy, cocaine, \$3,000.00 in cash and various prescription medications.

The Los Angeles County Department of Family and Children Services Multi Agency Response Team was present for today's operation to ensure that any children found to be in Probationers homes were not at risk from accessible firearms, narcotics and/or any other potentially neglectful or abusive situations. In total, 14 investigations were opened for continued follow-up services.

"Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms considers Los Angeles County Department of Probation (DISARM) a critical partner in its long-term mission of combating violent crime and removing criminals from our communities," says John A. Torres, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Los Angeles Field Division. "ATF will continue to dedicate Federal

resources in conjunction with those crucial law enforcement contributions of local agencies to the pursuit of eradicating and forestalling criminal activity.”

From all involved this operation was touted as a huge success, taking numerous probation violators and guns off the street.

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