

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2500



CONTACT: John Carr
(916) 826-8287

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ABC & Escondido Police Arrest Several People on Illegal Narcotics Charges *Dozens of Police Officers Crack Down on Illegal Drug Sales at Seven Escondido Locations*

(Escondido) – On Friday, October 22, 2010, California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Investigators and the Escondido Police Department arrested 13 individuals at seven different ABC licensed locations in the city of Escondido. Many law enforcement officers conducted a citywide raid resulting in the arrests. It is the largest drug raid conducted by ABC this year in the State of California.

The arrests follow a lengthy investigation involving the sale of illegal drugs including methamphetamines, cocaine, illegal prescription drugs and high-grade marijuana. The sales occurred inside the premises of the following locations:

(Type 48) Pounders, 125 West Grand Avenue
(Type 48) El Rodeo Bar, 425 North Rose Street
(Type 48) Thee Spot, 945 West Valley Parkway
(Type 48) Club Anitas, 1320 East Valley Parkway
(Type 47) Senor Taquito, 1620 East Valley Parkway
(Type 48) Escondido Sports Pub, 1205 South Escondido Boulevard
(Type 47) Woodies, 717 North Escondido Boulevard

ABC and the Escondido Police Department arrested nine individuals for sales and possession of illegal drugs on the night of the sweep and were still seeking four others for illegal drug sales. During the investigation, ABC undercover investigators were able to make a total of 32 separate purchases of methamphetamine, cocaine, illegal prescription drugs, and high-grade marijuana from employees on several different occasions.

In addition to the criminal charges, ABC will pursue administrative disciplinary action against each of the seven locations where employees were involved in illegal drug sales. Penalties range from

ABC and the Escondido Police Department initiated the investigation due to heightened concern about illegal drug sales. ABC investigators went undercover multiple times to develop the information that led to the arrests.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.