



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: July 10, 2019  
Contact: Jason Hoppin  
831-454-3401

### MULTIPLE CANNABIS ABATEMENT ACTIONS ANNOUNCED

Last week, Sheriff's Office personnel assigned to the Cannabis Licensing Office conducted enforcement activities at various locations in the vicinity of Boulder Creek.

Visiting 10 locations on Skyview Road, Ramble Road, and Deer Creek Road, investigators executed search warrants at unpermitted cannabis operations and seized 1686 cannabis plants, nearly 132 pounds of processed cannabis flower, 1176 cannabis "vape" cartridges, two firearms, and several thousand cannabis plant seeds packaged for sale.

During execution of the searches, one individual used a tractor and large redwood log to prevent access by Sheriff's personnel. The individual will be referred the District Attorney's Office for possible criminal prosecution. Investigators also determined another individual was illegally diverting water from a drainage, which included use of a makeshift dam. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife took part in the investigation and may pursue criminal charges associated with the water diversion.

The Sheriff's Office issued nine administrative citations for commercial cultivation, distribution and manufacturing, totaling \$57,500.

During 2019, Sheriff's Office personnel assigned to the Cannabis Licensing Office have conducted 53 site visits and served 33 search warrants. During those investigations they seized nine firearms and approximately 38,000 cannabis plants, 2,500 pounds of processed cannabis flower and 13 pounds of processed cannabis concentrate. A total of 112 administrative citations have been issued.

The properties searched are:

- Ramble Road: 119 cannabis plants seized; cultivator issued \$2,500 citation for non-permitted commercial cannabis cultivation. Homeowner issued \$2,500 administrative citation for non-permitted commercial cannabis distribution.



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- Deer Creek Road: Property owner issued a 48-hour abatement notice for 127 cannabis plants under cultivation.
- Little Buck Road: 816 cannabis plants, cultivator issued a \$2,500 administrative citation for non-permitted commercial cannabis cultivation.
- Ramble Road at Skyview Road: Owner of property warned about unlawful grading and building of commercial greenhouse. Referred to Planning Department for further investigation.
- Skyview Road at Buckhorn: Owner self-abated 111 cannabis plants in lieu of 48-hour abatement notice and administrative citation.
- Deer Creek Road #2: 324 cannabis plants seized, 132 pounds of processed cannabis flower, and 38 pounds of cannabis for manufacturing seized. Cultivator issued \$10,000 administrative citation for commercial cannabis cultivation and commercial distribution, and property owner issued a \$10,000 administrative citation for commercial cultivation and commercial distribution.
- North Skyview Road at South Skyview Road: 133 cannabis plants seized, manufactured cannabis, both cultivators issued \$7,500 administrative citation for commercial cultivation, manufacturing and distribution.
- North Skyview Road: 130 cannabis plants under cultivation were left on site after the cultivator provided medical recommendations.
- North Skyview Road south of Kings Creek Road: Site inspection, no commercial cannabis on site, in compliance.
- North Skyview Road at Kings Creek Road: Owner blocked access to prevent access, discarded 2 handguns, psilocybin mushrooms and other evidence on the property after observing the law enforcement arrival via video cameras. 183 cannabis plants seized, psilocybin mushrooms, cannabis wax/concentrate, several thousand cannabis seeds packaged for resale, 2 handguns, and 1176 cannabis "vape" pen cartridges seized. Owner issued a \$7,500 administrative citation for commercial cultivation, distribution and manufacturing. The case was referred to the District Attorney's Office for possible prosecution.