



## NEWS RELEASE

**City of Modesto  
Police Department  
Office of the Chief of Police  
Tuesday, May 16, 2006  
2:00 P.M. For Immediate Release  
Author: Officer Rick Applegate**

### **Paradise South, Gateway to Change, Appoints Coordinator**

MODESTO, CA: Weed & Seed - The City of Modesto Police Department, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and the *Paradise South, Gateway To Change* Weed & Seed Steering Committee announce the appointment of Cindy Rhea as Weed & Seed Coordinator. Cindy has over 17 years experience in local government, including 13 years with the Modesto Police Department. Her most recent assignment has been as the Modesto Crime Free Multi-Housing Coordinator. She formerly worked for Emanuel Medical Center's Office of Development. Cindy will be responsible for the implementation and management of Modesto's Weed & Seed strategy.

"I believe Cynthia Rhea is eminently qualified and brings a wealth of experience and energy to this worthwhile community project," said Kim David Stafford, Weed & Seed District Coordinator, U.S. Attorney's Office, Sacramento, California. Assistant Sheriff Mark Puthuff adds, "I congratulate Cindy on her new assignment as the Weed & Seed Coordinator. Under Cindy's guidance, I know this vital community project will continue to thrive." "I know that Cindy will be a tremendous asset to the community and to our efforts to make positive change with the help of our community," said Chief Roy Wasden.

Weed & Seed is a federal strategy and partnership of government agencies, community organizations, businesses and area residents in an effort to "weed" out criminal activity and blight and to "seed" the area with community services, opportunities and activities. The Weed & Seed area, called *Paradise South, Gateway to Change*, is bordered by Paradise Road on the north, Carpenter Road on the west, the Tuolumne River on the south, and Hwy 99 on the east. The area includes residences in both city and county jurisdictions.

Anyone with questions about the Weed and Seed program is encouraged to call Cindy Rhea, program coordinator, at (209) 342-6105.

For information about this news release, contact police spokesperson Officer Rick Applegate at (209) 652-1206.