

NEWS RELEASE

**City of Modesto
Police Department
Office of the Chief of Police
Wednesday, January 25, 2006
4:00 P.M. For Immediate Release
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Paradise South, Gateway to Change

MODESTO, CA: Weed & Seed - Beginning in February, the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County, working jointly with both public and private partners, will launch the first phase of the enforcement component of the Weed & Seed program.

Enforcement operations will focus on combating street gangs, illicit drugs, and weapons violations. Additional operations will be conducted to enhance traffic safety and increase seatbelt/child safety seat compliance. There will also be operations conducted regarding abandoned vehicle abatement, removal of blight, and animal control issues. These operations will take place after the residents have been informed of applicable codes and regulations, given information on available resources to assist with compliance, and then provided with a reasonable amount of time to comply.

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.

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Deputy Noel Vento, and Modesto Police Officer Mark Frink have both been assigned to the Weed & Seed area. They will work jointly to address quality of life issues and act as the law enforcement liaison with the community.

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

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

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