To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: 01/19/2011

Subject: Recent Narcotics Arrest along Hwy 395 in Coleville

On Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at approximately 11:45 p.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputies stopped a vehicle traveling in an erratic manner, northbound on Hwy 395 in Coleville. The deputy made contact with the two individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as David Cruz, age 32, and Bernadin Estriplet, age 28, both of June Lake.

Upon contact, the Deputy noticed a strong odor of burnt marijuana coming from inside the vehicle and asked both parties to exit the vehicle. After a search of the vehicle, a medium backpack was found in the trunk containing four glass mason jars each containing marijuana buds over 1 oz; a large plastic bag containing over six ounces of marijuana leaves; and other marijuana paraphernalia. Both Cruz and Estriplet were arrested and booked in the Mono County Jail where they are currently in custody for the possession and intent to sell marijuana.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Source: MONET Team

Date: January 20, 2011

RE: MONET Search Warrant leads to several arrests

During the past week, the Mono Narcotic Enforcement Team (MONET) served a search warrant and made several arrests resulting in the seizure of a ¼ ounce of methamphetamine, hundreds of pirated DVD movies with duplication equipment, and a firearm.

MONET concluded the first investigation by arresting Sergio Pena Cabrera, a 24 year old Fresno resident. Cabrera was arrested for possession for sale, and sales of methamphetamine where agents recovered a ¼ ounce of methamphetamine. At the time of Cabrera’s arrest, he gave agents a false name. After his identity was confirmed, he was found to have an outstanding arrest warrant and to be on formal probation in another county. Cabrera is linked to a Fresno organization that has delivered narcotics to Mammoth Lakes in the past. Agents have arrested several of these operators over the past few years for narcotic sales. Cabrera was booked at the Mono County Jail and is also being held by Immigration and Customs Enforcement as an illegal immigrant.

MONET agents served a search warrant in June Lake where they discovered an indoor marijuana grow with approximately 50 plants. The occupants, 28 year old Nicholas Dunahoo, and 25 year old Kimberly Maddox, both of June Lake were arrested and charged with manufacturing, copying, selling and/or renting pirated DVD movies. The pair possessed several hundred pirated DVD movies, duplication equipment and evidence of the illegal enterprise. Agents also recovered a shotgun from the residence. Additionally, Dunahoo had an outstanding felony warrant in another county.
The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff's Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: January 20, 2011

RE: Traffic Stop Leads to Arrest of Two Grass Valley residents

On Saturday, January 15, 2011 at approximately 6:30pm a Mono County Sheriff Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the Lee Vining area for expired registration. The deputy made contact with the two individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as Ashley Strickland, age 20, and Jose Henriquez, age 21, all of Grass Valley, CA; along with a third party.

During the investigation, Ms. Strickland and Mr. Henriquez displayed symptoms of being under the influence of narcotics and were ultimately placed under arrest. The Deputy conducted a search of the vehicle and located several baggies containing marijuana and methamphetamine along with narcotic paraphernalia.

Ms. Strickland was transported to, cited, and released at the Bridgeport Sheriff Station. Mr. Henriquez was transported to and booked at the Mono County Jail. He will be facing numerous charges including possession of a controlled substance and giving false information to a peace officer.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: February 3, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation

The Mono County Sheriff’s Department is investigating the death of a Crowley Lake resident. On Thursday, January 27th, at approximately 8:20 am, a Mono County Sheriff’s Deputy was dispatched to 325 Sierra Springs Drive for a welfare check. Jeff Wheeler, 40, was found deceased in his bed from a self-inflicted gun-shot wound to the head. Further death details are under investigation.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: February 9, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into an apparent suicide of an Elk Grove man

The Mono County Sheriff’s Department is investigating the death of an Elk Grove resident. On Saturday, February 5th, at approximately 9:50 am, a Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer was on routine patrol in the Mt. Morrison Cemetery area. The Forest Service LEO located a silver Chevy Blazer parked near the cemetery maintenance shed. He noticed a man lying across the rear seat. He tried to make contact but the man was unresponsive. Mono County Paramedics and a Mono County Deputy Sheriff were called to assist. When the Mono County Deputy Sheriff arrived, he found the man, identified as Daniel Joseph Geis, 35, to be deceased from an apparent suicide. Exact cause of death is currently under investigation.

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To: All News Outlets

From: Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff

Date: February 14, 2011

RE: Is Winter Coming Back – Think Before You Drive

During the months of January and February, citizens and visitors of Mono County have not had to deal with many winter driving issues relating to snow, whiteout conditions, etc, but the upcoming forecast looks as if old man winter might be coming back to town.

The Mono County Sheriff’s Office would like to emphasize to the public that they need to be prepared at all times when they are out and about in town or on the highway, in a vehicle or on foot. Carry extra food, water and clothing in your vehicle in case you are unable to arrive at your destination and have to remain in your vehicle for an unknown amount of time due to weather or road conditions.

Watch for snow removal equipment or individuals on the roadway, whether that be a large snowplow on the highway or just a resident with a snow thrower or shovel in hand. If you watch for them, both their safety and your own could benefit from your awareness.

Please be aware of various locations throughout the County that have parking restrictions. There are areas within Crowley Lake and June Lake that have no parking restrictions, and during snow events, if a vehicle is violating this, it can truly hinder snow removal. Please adhere to the no parking restrictions, as if you violate these you are subject to citation and/or your vehicle is subject to towing. These restrictions are in place for the safety of all involved especially during snow removal situations.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: February 17, 2011

Subject: Recent Narcotics Arrest along Hwy 395 outside Bridgeport

On Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at approximately 8:00 a.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputies stopped a vehicle traveling in an erratic manner, northbound on Hwy 395 just north of the Green Creek Road turn off. The deputy made contact with the two individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as Joaquin Agiar, Jr., age 21, of Perris, CA, and Brandi Adame, age 34, of Lemon Grove, CA.

Upon contact, it was determined that Mr. Agiar, Jr. was on felony probation out of San Diego for the transportation of a controlled substance. After a search of the vehicle, a pink plastic make-up bag containing numerous items used for ingesting illegal narcotics was found in Ms. Adame’s purse. Upon further search of the vehicle, a brown plastic grocery bag containing about nine ounces of methamphetamine was found concealed inside the engine air filter compartment. Both Agiar Jr. and Adame were arrested and booked in the Mono County Jail where they are currently in custody for the transportation of a controlled substance.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: February 24, 2011

Subject: Recent Narcotics Arrest in the Bridgeport Area

On Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at approximately 7:30 a.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputies stopped a vehicle with no license plates and no displayed temporary registration paperwork traveling northbound on Hwy 395 north of Bridgeport. The deputy made contact with the two individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as Rae Dean Anderson, age 42, of Sun Valley, NV, and Dennis Shay, age 34, of Winnemucca, NV. They stated they were traveling from Mexico to the Reno, NV area.

After further investigation, a search of the vehicle was conducted. A pink backpack was located on the floor board in between the driver and passenger seats containing a gray vinyl glass case containing a yellow balloon with seven grams of methamphetamine; and a blue balloon containing ecstasy tablets and oxycodone tablets. Both Anderson and Shay were arrested and booked in the Mono County Jail where they are currently in custody for being under the influence and the transportation of a controlled substance.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: March 2, 2011

Subject: Possible attempted suicide outside Shady Rest Park

On Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at approximately 3:45 p.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding a man found bleeding from a possible attempted suicide in his vehicle near Shady Rest Park. Mammoth Lakes Police Department Officers arrived on scene first, located the victim, and transported him to Mammoth Hospital to tend to his injuries.

Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies arrived on scene to conduct the investigation. Upon examination of the vehicle, a .22 rifle, an empty package of sleeping pills, and several alcohol containers were located in the vehicle. There was no evidence that the rifle was fired. The incident is still under investigation.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: April 27, 2011

Subject: Narcotics Arrest of a June Lake resident

On Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at approximately 8:00 a.m., a Mono County Sheriff’s Deputy was following up on a report of a suspected illegal marijuana grow in June Lake. Deputies and MONET agents arrived at the residence of Timothy Marsh, age 27, of June Lake. Upon entering the residence, deputies found numerous marijuana plants and other supplies used for growing marijuana. It was determined that Mr. Marsh was not in compliance with current marijuana laws in terms of growing marijuana in his residence. As a result of the damage to the residence from the marijuana grow, Mono County Building Department subsequently red tagged the residence. Mr. Marsh was taken to the Bridgeport Jail where he is currently in custody pending an investigation with the District Attorney’s office.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: May 4, 2011

Subject: Recent MONET Activity around Mono County

During the past few months, MONET agents were conducting an investigation, with the use of a confident informant (CI), into the potential cocaine sales in the Mammoth Lakes area. On Friday, April 22, 2011, MONET agents arrested Grant Douglas Hanover, age 20, of Mammoth Lakes, for the alleged sales of cocaine and for violating the conditions of his probation. Mr. Hanover is currently in custody in the Mono County Jail.

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011, Mono County Sheriff’s deputies received information involving illegal drug activity in the June Lake area. Deputies contacted Michael Rosas, age 43, of June Lake, at his residence and were overwhelmed by the smell of marijuana coming from the residence. Deputies detained Mr. Rosas until a search warrant was obtained by MONET agents. A search warrant was produced for Mr. Rosas residence where the discovery of approximately seven pounds of processed marijuana and an elaborate marijuana cultivation operation were found. As part of the search warrant, MONET agents recovered evidence of illegal sales of marijuana. Mr. Rosas was arrested for possession of marijuana for sale, sales of marijuana, and cultivation of marijuana. Mr. Rosas was transported to the Mono County Jail where he was released on bail.
The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: May 10, 2011

Subject: Current Mono City Incident

At approximately 2:00pm, Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies responded to the report of a a woman that appears to have broken into a residence in Mono City where she has secluded herself in the residence. Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies are attempting to contact the woman and get her out of the residence safely. She is believed to be armed.

A Code Red alert was issued to citizens of the Mono City area advising them to please stay in their homes as the incident continues. The Sheriff’s Department will issue another Code Red alert when the incident is under resolve.

This is all the information that is being released at this time.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: May 10, 2011

Subject: Stand-off Incident in Mono City

At approximately 2:00pm, on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies received a call of a female that had possibly committed suicide. The reporting party stated they were missing a .45 caliber handgun and believed the female had taken the weapon. The reporting party searched for the suspect female’s vehicle and it was ultimately located at a residence in Mono City where the reporting party believed the female may have committed suicide. Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies were then dispatched to the residence in Mono City.

Upon initial contact at the residence, there was no response from the female suspect. Finally contact was made with the female who then got into a verbal altercation with the deputies. At that time, the deputies decided to back off and called for further assistance from other Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department, California Highway Patrol, and the Mono County Paramedics. Entry into the residence was ultimately made where the female was taken into custody without incident. A loaded .45 caliber handgun was found adjacent to her person. The female suspect is possibly looking at burglary and a grand theft charge.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: May 12, 2011

Subject: Recent Narcotics Arrest along Hwy 395 in the Bridgeport Area

On Friday, May 6, 2011, at approximately 12:45 p.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputies stopped a vehicle for not observing the speed limit as they traveled south bound on Hwy 395 south of Bridgeport. The deputy made contact with the three individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as David Garza, age 41, of Loyalton, CA, Gregory Parker, age 27, of Dayton, NV, and Thomas Daly, age 22, of Douglas, NV. As the deputy made contact, there was a strong odor of burnt marijuana emitting from the vehicle.

Upon further investigation, the driver, David Garza, stated he had a medical marijuana card and a search of the vehicle was conducted to verify Mr. Garza was in compliance with the medical marijuana laws. It was determined that Mr. Garza only had a recommendation card and was placed under arrest for the possession of marijuana. The two passengers, Thomas Daly and Gregory Parker, were searched for any weapons or drugs. Mr. Daly had methamphetamine on his person and was placed under arrest for the possession of a controlled substance. Mr. Parker was found with a baton that is illegal in the State of California and was also placed under arrest. All three men were taken into custody at the Mono County Jail and charges are pending.

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allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: May 12, 2011

Subject: Stand-off Incident in Mono City: Final Update

At approximately 2:00pm, on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies received a call of a female, identified as Gwyneth Brimelow, age 48, of Lee Vining, CA, had possibly committed suicide. The reporting party stated they were missing a .45 caliber handgun and believed Ms. Brimelow had taken the weapon. The reporting party searched for Ms. Brimelow’s vehicle and it was ultimately located at a residence in Mono City where the reporting party believed Ms. Brimelow may have committed suicide. Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies were then dispatched to the residence in Mono City.

Upon initial contact at the residence, there was no response from Ms. Brimelow who was believed to have entered the house through a back door. Finally contact was made with Ms. Brimelow who then got into a verbal altercation with the deputies. At that time, the deputies decided to back off and called for further assistance from other Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department, California Highway Patrol, and the Mono County Paramedics. Further contact with Ms. Brimelow was attempted via cell phone with no response. A flash bang device was used at the front of the residence to divert Ms. Brimelow’s attention. Entry into the residence was ultimately made where Ms. Brimelow resisted arrest and subsequently hurt her shoulder. A loaded .45 caliber handgun was found adjacent to her person. She was transported to Mammoth Hospital for evaluation due to her blood alcohol level being extremely high. After evaluation, Ms. Brimelow was taken into custody where she faces possible charges of burglary and a grand theft.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: August 25, 2011

Subject: Marijuana Eradication in the Toiyabe National Forest

As part of the campaign of the Mono Narcotic Enforcement Team (MONET) to combat the cultivation of marijuana in Mono County, MONET agents, with the assistance of Inyo County Sheriff’s Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Douglas County Sheriff’s Department, California Highway Patrol, CAMP, Alpine County Sheriff’s Department, Bishop Police Department, Mono County District Attorney’s Office, Mono County Paramedics and Mono County Public Works, eradicated a large cultivation operation in Mono County on Forest Service land.

The eradication took place on Thursday, August 25th, 2011, in the Sweetwater Mountain Range in the Toiyabe National Forest. Over the course of 12 hours law enforcement, with the assistance of DEA and CAMP helicopters, eradicated more than 13,000 marijuana plants from several grow sites. The potential street value of the marijuana is approximately $67 million dollars. No suspects were located in the grow sites although multiple camp areas were located along with several weapons and ammunition.

With these types of illegal marijuana grow sites, public lands are routinely desecrated with garbage, piping material, etc. The U.S. Forest Service will go into the area for extensive clean up and restoration due to the destruction of public lands by these cultivators.

MONET agents would like to warn outdoor enthusiasts of the dangers of locating one of these grow sites while enjoying the outdoors. If you see anything that looks out of place such as cleared areas of forest that should not be cleared, fertilizer bags, black plastic pipes, large camps where there should not be, or growing marijuana, please immediately leave the area and note the location, if possible, and notify the appropriate law enforcement agency. These large scale marijuana cultivators are known to be armed and will sometimes protect the gardens at any expense.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: August 31, 2011

Subject: Recent Narcotics Arrest along Hwy 395 in the Bridgeport Area

On Sunday, August 28, 2011, at approximately 11:00 p.m., Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputies stopped a Tioga motor home for not observing the speed limit as it traveled north bound on Hwy 395 north of Bridgeport. The deputy made contact with the individuals inside of the vehicle, identified as Ismael Santiago, age 34, Francine Hoffman, age 55, and John Ottombrino, age 62, all of San Diego, CA. As the deputy made contact with the driver, Ismael Santiago, Mr. Santiago fell off the driver’s seat landing in between the driver and passenger seats while trying to hand his driver’s license to the deputy. Mr. Santiago was showing signs of being under the influence of drugs.

Upon further investigation, Mr. Santiago, stated he had a medical marijuana card and a search of the vehicle was conducted to verify Mr. Santiago was in compliance with the medical marijuana laws. It was determined that Mr. Santiago had a false card and was placed under arrest for the possession of marijuana. Upon further search of the motor home, 19 grams of hashish; several capsules of ecstasy and LSD; and several containers of cannabis milk were recovered. The two passengers, Francine Hoffman and John Ottombrino, were placed under arrest for the possession of controlled substances. All three individuals were taken into custody at the Mono County Jail and charges are pending with the District Attorney’s Office.

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Press Release

September 6, 2011

To: All Media Outlets

From: Lt. David W. O’Hara

Subject: Suspect arrested in campground thefts.

Investigators with the Mono County Sheriff’s Department arrested Mark Huddleston, age 69, on 8-31-11 for theft and possession of stolen property. Huddleston a resident of Milwaukee, Oregon, was taken into custody near Rock Creek Road in the area of Tom’s Place.

Huddleston’s arrest concluded a 3 year spree of campground thefts in the Convict Lake and Rock Creek areas in which generators and fishing equipment were stolen. Stolen property from numerous other thefts was recovered in Huddleston’s vehicle at the time of his arrest. It appears that Huddleston is responsible for campground thefts in several western states. The investigation is continuing and further information will be released at a later date.
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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: September 29, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the suicide of a June Lake resident

The Mono County Sheriff’s Department conducted an investigation into the death of a June Lake resident. On Tuesday, September 27th, at approximately 11:00 am, a Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputy along with Mono County Paramedics and the June Lake Fire Department were dispatched to a residence in June Lake with the report of a man that had possibly committed suicide. When the Mono County Deputy Sheriff arrived, he found the man, identified as Charles William Dailey, age 71, of June Lake, to be deceased from an apparent self inflicted gunshot wound. Autopsy results confirm this incident was a suicide and not a suspicious death.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: October 5, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation concludes into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident

The Mono County Sheriff’s Department concluded an investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident that occurred in August.

On Wednesday, August 10, 2011, at approximately 1:30 am, a Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputy was dispatched to a residence in Old Mammoth to assist Mono County Paramedics, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, and Mammoth Lakes Police Department for a female found unresponsive with no pulse and not breathing. When the Mono County Sheriff’s Department Deputy arrived on scene, Mono County Paramedics and Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers were attempting life saving methods but were unsuccessful. Lisa Marie Longo, age 34, of Mammoth Lakes, was pronounced deceased. Final autopsy and toxicology reports deem Ms. Longo’s death as an accidental death caused by asphyxiation due to aspiration of her stomach contents.
information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To:       All Media Outlets

From:    Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date:    October 17, 2011

RE:       Reported Bear Attack in the Twin Lakes area near Bridgeport

On Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at approximately 2:30 pm, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding a reported bear attack near the Twin Lakes area in Bridgeport. The caller stated that they heard someone say, “there’s a bear in the bushes” and then heard screaming. Mono County Sheriff’s deputies along with Mono County Paramedics and Bridgeport Fire Department were dispatched to the area of Twin Lakes to try and locate the potential attack victim. The Mono County Sheriff’s Department Search and Rescue team along with care flight were put on standby in case additional resources were needed. An extensive search of the area was conducted. No sign of a bear in the area was seen and no reported victim was located. All responders were cancelled from the area. No further calls or activity has been received.

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regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: October 20, 2011

RE: Report of possible gun shots in Chalfant Valley

On the morning of Thursday, October 20, 2011, at approximately 6:50, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding possible gun shots fired on Valley Road in Chalfant.

Mono County Sheriff’s deputies, along with California Highway Patrol, were dispatched to a residence on Valley Road in Chalfant with the report of a man yelling followed by the sound of multiple gun shots. When deputies arrived on scene, they observed a fire in a burn barrel actively burning in the back yard. Deputies made contact with Kenneth Wayne Riggins, age 37, of Chalfant. Mr. Riggins had placed live ammunition into an actively burning barrel causing the ammunition to be set off. The ammunition was continually discharging while deputies were on scene causing a public safety issue. The rounds in the barrel were the “possible shots fired” that were heard. Mono County Code Enforcement, along with the Mono County Building Department, was called to the residence. The residence has been red tagged. Upon further investigation into this incident, it was determined that Mr. Riggins was under the influence of a controlled substance and was taken into custody and transported to the Mono County Jail in Bridgeport. This incident is still under investigation with the Mono County Sheriff’s Department and the Mono County Building Department.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: October 31, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident

On the morning of Monday, October 31, 2011, at approximately 8:00, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department along with the Mono County Paramedics was dispatched to a residence on Evergreen Street in Mammoth Lakes for the report of an unresponsive male. Upon arrival on scene, John Tobacco, age 30, of Mammoth Lakes, was found unresponsive and without vital signs at which time he was pronounced deceased. Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies were dispatched to the scene to begin a coroner’s investigation. Currently, the death is of a suspicious nature and is being jointly investigated by Mammoth Lakes Police Department and the Mono County Sheriff’s Department. Cause of death is pending autopsy results.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns
regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: October 31, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident

On the morning of Monday, October 31, 2011, at approximately 8:00, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department along with the Mono County Paramedics was dispatched to a residence on Evergreen Street in Mammoth Lakes for the report of an unresponsive male. Upon arrival on scene, a 30 year-old male subject was found unresponsive and without vital signs at which time he was pronounced deceased. Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies were dispatched to the scene to begin a coroner’s investigation. Currently, the death is of a suspicious nature and is being jointly investigated by Mammoth Lakes Police Department and the Mono County Sheriff’s Department. Cause of death is pending autopsy results.

The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: November 2, 2011

RE: Report of an attempted suicide in Chalfant

On the afternoon of Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at approximately 4:00pm, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding the report of an adult female possibly attempting suicide in the Chalfant area.

California Highway Patrol and Chalfant Fire Department were the first agencies to respond to the scene. CHP attempted to make contact with the female inside her residence to find that she had already left the location. Mono County Sheriff’s deputies located the female walking down the street. Deputies then transported her to Mammoth Hospital without incident for further evaluation and care.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: November 3, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes man

On the afternoon of Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at approximately 4:45, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Alexander Viterbi, age 40, of Mammoth Lakes, was found unresponsive by a friend in his residence on Hillside Drive in Mammoth. Mono County Paramedics, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department and Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies were dispatched to the scene. When units arrived on scene, it was determined that Mr. Viterbi was deceased. Cause of death is under investigation by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department pending autopsy results.

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To: All Media Outlets
From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer
Date: November 3, 2011
RE: Update into the Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident

On the morning of Monday, October 31, 2011, at approximately 8:00, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

John Tobacco, age 30, of Mammoth Lakes, was found unresponsive and without vital signs by his roommate. Mammoth Lakes Police Department and Mono County Paramedics were dispatched to the residence on Evergreen Street in Mammoth. When units arrived on scene, it was determined that Mr. Tobacco was deceased. Mono County Sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to the scene to begin the coroner’s investigation. The death of Mr. Tobacco is being jointly investigated by the Mammoth Lakes Police Department and the Mono County Sheriff’s Department as a suspicious death. No weapons were involved in the incident; however, narcotics were found at the scene. Final cause of death is pending autopsy results which are scheduled for Friday, November 4, 2011, and toxicological results.

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to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.
To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: December 19, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Mammoth Lakes resident

On the afternoon of Thursday, December 15, 2011, at approximately 4:15, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Tom Greenstein, age 41, of Mammoth Lakes, was found unresponsive and without vital signs in his Mammoth Lakes home. Mammoth Lakes Police Department and Mono County Paramedics were dispatched to the residence in Mammoth. When units arrived on scene, it was determined that Mr. Greenstein was deceased. Mono County Sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to the scene to begin the coroner’s investigation. The death of Mr. Greenstein is currently being investigated by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department. Final cause of death is pending autopsy and toxicological results.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: December 27, 2011

RE: Coroner’s Investigation into the death of a Bishop resident

On the morning of Monday, December 26, 2011, at approximately 9:45, Mono County Sheriff’s Department dispatch received a call regarding an unresponsive male in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Kevin James Jarvis, age 26, of Bishop, California, was found unresponsive and without vital signs at a family member’s Mammoth Lakes home. Mammoth Lakes Police Department and Mono County Paramedics were dispatched to the residence in Mammoth. When units arrived on scene, it was determined that Mr. Jarvis was deceased. Mono County Sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to the scene to begin the coroner’s investigation. The death of Mr. Jarvis is currently being investigated by the Mono County Sheriff’s Department. Final cause of death is pending autopsy and toxicological results.

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To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: December 29, 2011

RE: Paragliding Accident at the Mono Craters

On the morning of Wednesday, December 28th, 2011, at approximately 10:30, Mono County Sheriff’s Office Dispatch received a call regarding a downed paraglider in the area of the Mono Craters.

Kern Barta, age 45, of Truckee, CA, was paragliding with a group of friends above the west aspect of the craters when he collided with the steep terrain. His friends were able to reach him and found that he had sustained back and leg injuries and had briefly lost consciousness due to the impact of the fall. Mono County Paramedics, Lee Vining Fire Department, a Mono County Sheriff’s Deputy, and the Mono County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue (SAR) Team responded to the area. Following a medical evaluation and stabilization, Mr. Barta was transported down the side of the crater via a technical low angle lowering. A Care Flight helicopter was on scene and transported Mr. Barta to Renown Medical Center in Reno for further treatment.

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