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PRESS RELEASE GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE STATEWIDE SEX OFFENDER SWEEP

Garfield County, Colorado; Operation Shepherd, a multi-state sex offender sweep, has netted over 106 arrests and conducted over 2000 compliance checks. U.S. Marshals in Colorado and Wyoming partnered up with Crime Stoppers and more than 50 law enforcement agencies, including Immigration Customs Enforcement, Department of Corrections – Parole and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, to carry out the massive sweep.

In Garfield County, between October 23rd – 25th two teams from the Garfield County Sheriff's Office were conducting unannounced compliance checks. Garfield County Sheriff's Office is currently managing 42 registered sex offenders and found 2 of those offenders needed further investigations to determine if they are in compliance and may result in a warrant for sex offender registration violation.

For several weeks, teams of law enforcement officers have been conducting unannounced compliance checks throughout both states, identifying convicted sex offenders that have moved without properly registering their addresses and looking for fugitives with outstanding sex offense related warrants. "These fugitive sex offenders are being identified and now we're going after them", states Robert Rodriguez, Sex Offender Investigations Coordinator for the U.S. Marshals Service.

The second phase of the sweep kicked off on Oct. 22 when police turned to the public for assistance by promoting the Colorado Top 100 "Most Wanted" Sex Offender website, maintained by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Sex Offender Fugitive Unit.

Leads called in to Colorado Crime Stoppers, U.S. Marshals and CBI, along with investigative work, has led to over 106 arrests so far. "We have located and arrested fugitives as far as Washington State. Additional leads have been sent to other parts of the country," states Rodriguez.

Some of the warrants cleared include:

Failure to Register: 63

Sex Assault (Child): 10

Parole Violation by Convicted Sex Offender: 9

Escape: 2
Immigration Legal/Illegal Resident Sex Crime: 14
Sex Assault: 6
Child Prostitution: 1
Rape/Aggravated Incest (Child): 3
Sexual Exploitation (Child): 1
Violation of Protection Order: 1
Narcotics: 1
Assault/Battery: 2
Violent Crime with a Weapon: 1

The U.S. Marshals and Colorado Bureau of Investigation, FLAG - Adam Walsh Task Force, encourage the public to visit the Colorado Top 100 "Most Wanted" Sex Offender websites and continue to anonymously report tips on the location of these sex offender fugitives to law enforcement.

U.S. Marshals: (303)335-3400 - CBI: (303)239-5732 - Crime Stoppers Hotline 1-800-222-TIPS

<http://www.usmarshals.gov/district/co/index.html>

<http://sor.state.co.us/>

http://www.metro-denvercrimestoppers.com/cs_most.html

http://www.coloradostatecrimestoppers.com/Top_100.pdf

<http://www.garcocrimestoppers.com>

The following agencies participated in Operation Shepherd 2009:

Colorado:

Alamosa Police, Arapahoe County Sheriff, Aurora Police, Avon Police, Boulder Police, Boulder County Sheriff, Castle Rock Police, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Colorado Springs Police, Colorado State Patrol, Commerce City Police, Dacono Police, Denver Police, Denver County Sheriff, Department of Corrections – Parole, Douglas County Sheriff, Eagle County Sheriff, El Paso County Sheriff, Englewood Police, FBI Safe Streets Task Force, Firestone Police, Fort Collins Police, Garfield County Sheriff, Gilcrest Police, Glenwood Springs Police, Grand Junction Police, Greeley Police, Immigration Customs Enforcement, Jefferson County Sheriff, Johnstown Police, La Salle Police, Lakewood Police, Littleton Police, Longmont Police, Mesa County Sheriff, Nunn Police, Park County Sheriff, Parker Police, Pueblo Police, Pueblo County Sheriff, Sedgwick County Sheriff, Teller County Sheriff, Telluride Marshal, Vail Police, Weld County Sheriff, Westminster Police, Wheat Ridge Police, U.S. Marshals

Wyoming:

Albany County Sheriff, Laramie County Sheriff, Natrona County Sheriff, Sweetwater County Sheriff, U.S. Marshals



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