Bruce Wagstaff, Administrator

**Probation Department** 

Don Meyer, Chief Probation Officer



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2011

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Probation Department Donates 400 Turkeys to Families in Need**

Sacramento, CA -- Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services will receive 400 turkeys for needy families thanks to the Sacramento County Probation Department.

Probation Department employees will round up the frozen turkeys at the South Sacramento Costco today, November 18, at 9:00 a.m. The gobblers, closely supervised by probation personnel, will then be transported in a work project bus to Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services' Oak Park facility, 3333 Third Avenue, arriving around 10:00 a.m.

Chief Probation Officer Don Meyer said a staff member suggested the fundraiser to purchase and donate 100 turkeys to the Sacramento Food Bank's annual turkey drive. Thanksgiving artwork created and displayed by Juvenile Hall youth spurred a competition between the agency's divisions that generated enough money to buy 200 turkeys, well above the original goal. "This is an example of the dedication and willingness of Probation staff to go over and above their normal duties to make a difference for children and families in our community," said Meyer.

Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna, District 1, accepted a challenge from Probation to match their donation. "It was hard to ignore the extraordinary generosity and enthusiasm of Probation staff to help local families in need during the holidays," said Serna.

Serna reached out to the Loveall Foundation for Children, a non-profit organization that benefits under privileged, abused and children with special needs, to join forces with the Probation Department. The non-profit responded with a significant cash donation which allowed Probation to purchase an additional 200 turkeys for a total of 400.

INTERVIEW AND PHOTOS OPPORTUNITIES: PROBATION STAFF UNLOADING TURKEYS FROM BUS AND VAN BETWEEN 10 – 10:30 A.M.

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