



# COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

## Probation Department

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## NEWS RELEASE

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*For Immediate Release*

### **Probation Targets Chronic DUI Offenders in Sacramento**

(Sacramento, CA) On Saturday September 25, 2009 officers from the Sacramento County Probation Department began a series of warrant sweeps on chronic DUI offenders in Sacramento County.

Officers attempted to serve 40 warrants, successfully served 11 and made three arrests. They will continue to attempt to serve and arrest all those with outstanding DUI warrants.

The sweep is part of Probation's focused program on monitoring DUI offenders who have multiple offenses. The program, funded by an Office of Traffic Safety Grant, includes intense supervision to keep offenders in compliance with their probation. Dedicated probation officers meet with offenders weekly to ensure they attend court ordered counseling and if they are not in compliance, they are held accountable and rearrested for violation of probation among other offenses.

"This is the second of several sweeps that have occurred on a weekend," says Bill Hepworth, the Supervising Probation Officer for Probation's DUI enforcement effort. "We're focusing on chronic offenders and our message is that DUI monitoring doesn't take the weekend off.. And no matter if you are a chronic offender or casual drinker who makes a poor choice, if you drive under the influence; you are committing a lethal act."

The Probation Department is an integral part of Sacramento County's public safety structure, charged with the supervision of adult and juvenile offenders granted probation by the Courts. Probation works, in concert with law enforcement, education, community organizations and the residents of Sacramento County, to reduce crime and provide proven rehabilitation services for probationers. These efforts help sustain Sacramento County as a desirable, safe and economically viable community.

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