



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
SERGIO G. DIAZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

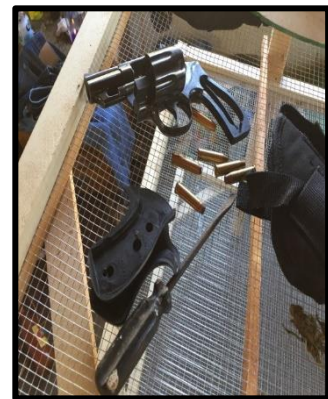
August 31, 2018

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ILLEGAL OUTDOOR MARIJUANA CULTIVATION FARM DISCOVERED AT LOCAL RESIDENCE

RIVERSIDE, CA - On Thursday, August 30, 2018, at about 2:00 p.m., members of the Riverside Police Department's Post-Release Accountability & Compliance Team (PACT) conducted a probation search for a subject with an outstanding felony warrant who resides in the 19000 block of Covell Street, located in an unincorporated area within the county of Riverside. As officers entered the rear of the property, they encountered a male subject armed with a loaded handgun. Further investigation revealed the armed subject was there to protect a large fenced marijuana field on the property, and had been living in a makeshift shack near the entrance of the field for an extended period of time.



Upon discovery of the marijuana field, the PACT Team contacted the Riverside Police Department's Narcotics Unit who responded to the location. After further inspection, it was determined this was an illegal cultivation of marijuana.

Approximately 400 marijuana plants, with a combined weight of about 6,000 pounds, were cut down and hauled away. Had they reached full maturity, the street value of the harvested marijuana is estimated to have been approximately one million dollars. Three subjects were located at the marijuana field during the search.



Luis M. Herrera Madrigal, 24-years-old of Riverside, Anthony Piccoli, 48-years-old of Riverside, and Ramon Vivian, 56-years-old of Perris, were arrested for cultivation of marijuana, possession of marijuana for sales, and transportation of marijuana for sales.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is urged to contact Detective M. Bucy at (951) 353-7221 or mbucy@riversideca.gov. Those wishing to remain anonymous can email rpdtips@riversideca.gov or utilize the Riverside Police Department's mobile app "Submit a Tip" feature while referencing incident number P18163519.

P18163519

