

Michael L. Johnson SHERIFF-CORONER

MEDIA RELEASE

Tobacco Decoy Operation

On Thursday, December 4, 2025, the Shasta County Sheriff's Office in partnership with Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency conducted a youth decoy operation to limit the sales of tobacco products to youth. One clerk sold tobacco products to the youth decoy, who was under the age of 21. During the operation, the decoy was supervised by Deputies from the Shasta County Sheriff's Office as the decoy attempted to purchase tobacco products from 28 tobacco retail licensed businesses throughout Shasta County. The following business was cited for selling tobacco products to the decoy:

Country Market, 5235 Happy Valley Road, Anderson

The employee was cited for misdemeanor violation of 308(a)(1)(A) PC Sell, give, furnish to a minor any tobacco product or paraphernalia.

Both agencies would like to remind everyone that the minimum age of purchasing and using tobacco products is 21 years old. The Shasta County Sheriff's Office will continue to conduct periodic compliance checks to reduce the availability of tobacco and vaping products to youth in Shasta County. This operation was made possible thanks to funding provided by the Department of Justice – Tobacco Grant Program through Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency.

Contact: Tim Mapes, Public Information Officer

Phone: (530) 245-6149

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