



Scott Jones  
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## RANCHO CORDOVA POLICE

Contracting with the Sacramento Sheriff's Office



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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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#### **RANCHO CORDOVA POLICE DEPARTMENT HALTS UNSAFE AND ILLEGAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION**

The Rancho Cordova Police Department (RCPD) is taking a proactive approach to identify and halt illegal marijuana cultivation to prevent illegal activity and nuisances for residents and businesses in the City of Rancho Cordova.

According to the Rancho Cordova Municipal Code, up to six plants may be cultivated indoors in a private residence in the city. However, RCPD is seeing unsafe and illegal cultivation in residential and business areas that far exceeds this plant requirement.

RCPD recently added an officer focused on illegal marijuana cultivation investigations and enforcement to enhance its ability to investigate tips from the community and take action to stop this unsafe and illegal activity.

“Our proactive approach was developed in response to community feedback,” said RCPD Assistant Chief of Police Jeff Schelldorf. “Illegal marijuana cultivation impacts quality of life. It creates building and safety hazards, generates nuisances for residents and businesses, and can lead to other types of crimes.”

At a time when there is high demand for industrial space and less than 1% of industrial space vacancies in areas of Rancho Cordova, this proactive approach also ensures businesses in the second largest employment center in the region can continue to expand and grow, and those that are operating illegally are not.

RCPD recently identified and halted the following illegal marijuana cultivation:

- On November 22, 2019, RCPD served a search warrant at one location suspected of illegal marijuana cultivation. RCPD located an illegal marijuana cultivation operation consisting of around 3,100 live marijuana plants. Around 1,320 pounds of marijuana, including the live plants, were destroyed. In addition, RCPD located and seized around \$1,000 in cash. RCPD arrested 29-year-old Serezha Darmoyan of Rancho Cordova and 64-year-old Krikor Jakalian of Citrus Heights on multiple charges relating to illegal marijuana cultivation and sales.

- On October 9, 2019, RCPD served search warrants at three locations pertaining to illegal marijuana cultivation. RCPD located an illegal marijuana cultivation operation consisting of around 800 live marijuana plants. Around 670 pounds of marijuana, including the live plants and processed and dried marijuana, were destroyed. In addition, RCPD located and seized items indicative of sales and around \$37,000 in cash. RCPD arrested 41-year-old Jeremy Mills of Folsom, 34-year-old Jaimee Mills of Folsom, and 36-year-old Maxim Yegorov of Sacramento on multiple charges relating to illegal marijuana cultivation and sales.

RCPD is asking residents and businesses to be our eyes in the community to help stop illegal marijuana cultivation. If you think there may be illegal marijuana cultivation in your area, please contact RCPD's Problem Oriented Policing Unit at 916.875.9600.

*Note: B-roll footage is available for download at [RanchoCordovaPD.com/RCPDPRESSROOM](http://RanchoCordovaPD.com/RCPDPRESSROOM). This footage is password protected. Please contact 916.542.3875 or [adownton@cityofranhocordova.org](mailto:adownton@cityofranhocordova.org) for access.*

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