SAN FERNAND

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: February 3, 2022

SAN FERNANDO POLICE RECEIVES CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT TO PREVENT TOBACCO SALES TO MINORS

SAN FERNANDO, CA – The San Fernando Police Department (SFPD) is pleased to announce it has been awarded a three-year grant in the amount of \$113,735 from the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant Program to reduce and prevent the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors in San Fernando.

"This program provides needed funding to the City of San Fernando in order to reduce the illegal sales to and use of tobacco products by our City's youth," Lieutenant Irwin Rosenberg said.

The grant affords the SFPD the ability, through education and enforcement, to focus on preventing the illegal sale of tobacco and vaping products by retailers to minors under 21 years of age. The grant also provides the opportunity for the SFPD to educate minors to prevent their use of tobacco and vaping products. The efforts funded under this grant will include minor decoy operations, school presentations, retail education, community outreach presentations, and deployment of officers in the City's parks to enforce City ordinances prohibiting use of tobacco products at these locations.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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Lieutenant Rosenberg said, "Our department is very pleased and proud to also be partnering with Pueblo Y Salud, a non-profit community-based organization founded in 1991 and headquartered in San Fernando. Pueblo Y Salud is assisting SFPD to develop training for officers and presentations for the schools and the Department's community policing programs. Their expertise and commitment to preventing minor use of tobacco products is invaluable and unmatched" Pueblo Y Salud focuses on serving communities within Los Angeles County through education, civic participation, health, culture, and drug/alcohol/tobacco prevention services.

The Tobacco Grant Program was created as a result of funds authorized under the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016. The program is designed to support law enforcement throughout the State with \$26.8M available in the State's 2021-2022 Fiscal Year.

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