



Fresno County Sheriff's Department

Richard Pierce, Sheriff **January 7, 2004**
News Release

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Fresno County Sheriff's Foundation for Public Safety and The Central Valley Children's Services Network to distribute over 1,000 firearm safety kits locally

Sheriff Richard Pierce announced today that a press conference will be held at 2200 N. Fresno Street, the Fresno County Sheriff's Department Administrative Building, on Thursday, January 8, 2004 at 4:30 p.m. to kick off "Project ChildSafe."

The Sheriff's Foundation for Public Safety, in conjunction with Central Valley Children's Services Network, will provide over 1,000 free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. The safety kits, which include a gunlock, will be distributed on Saturday, January 10, 2004 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Malaga Children and Families Center, located at 3910 S. Ward. In addition, child safety information booths, a bike rodeo, entertainment and food will be available. The Sheriff's Department specialty units such as SWAT, SERT, K-9, Boats, and the Mounted Unit will be represented.

Project ChildSafe, a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), will distribute millions of firearm safety kits throughout the country over the next year. The program is funded by an U.S. Department of Justice grant, with additional funding provided by the firearms industry.

Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style gunlock. The locks fit on most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns. The goal is to prevent a child or any other unauthorized person from accessing a firearm in your home.

By partnering with Project ChildSafe, the Sheriff's Foundation for Public Safety and the Central Valley Children's Services Network are participating in a growing national effort to promote firearm safety education to all gun owners. Project ChildSafe is an important step forward in helping ensure that all firearm owners fully understand their responsibilities with respect to the safe handling and storage of firearms.

Members of the media are welcome to attend the press conference. For more information, contact Fresno County Sheriff's Community Service Officer Addie Delgadillo at 488-2527.