



# **Fresno County Sheriff's Department**

**Richard Pierce, Sheriff** **November 3, 2005**  
**News Release**

Sgt. Greg Gularte  
PH: (559) 898-0667  
greg.gularte@fresnosheriff.org

## **The Fresno County Sheriff's Department AG Task Force serves a search warrant and discovers major identity theft operation.**

### **11-03-05 Service of Search Warrant at 22000 block of E. Lincoln Ave. in Fresno County. # 05-27317**

The Fresno County Sheriff's Department AG Task Force served a search warrant in 22000 block of E. Lincoln Ave in response to information that property from a recent burglary was located there. Detectives learned from a suspect interview there was also a counterfeiting and check washing operation occurring at the address. Many of the victims of the manufactured checks were local agricultural businesses. Detectives also learned that the residents had priors for several violent crimes, possession of firearms by multiple potential suspects, fortification of the perimeter gates, and video surveillance. Due to the high risk factors SWAT assisted in the service of the search warrant. During the search AGTF detectives seized a .22 caliber rifle, a 30/30 caliber rifle, (2) 22 caliber handguns and a 12 gauge sawed off shotgun. Detectives located several pieces of personal identification including California driver's licenses, California ID cards, credit cards and Social Security cards. Detectives located 100's of falsified paychecks and several pieces of counterfeit US currency including uncut sheets of denominations of 100, 20, and 10 dollar bills. Three adults were taken into custody: Diana Vazzano (44 yrs) was arrested and charged with multiple counts of forgery, passing fictitious checks and weapons charges. Randy Coleman (45 yrs) was arrested and charged with multiple counts of possession of stolen property, weapons charges, and identity theft. Santiago Morelos Cardenas (43 yrs) was arrested and charged with identity theft, passing fictitious checks, forgery, and multiple weapons charges.

The Fresno County Sheriff's Departments AG Task Force is requesting that the public notify them at their office if they have been the recent victims of identity theft. Please notify Detective Jared McCormick or Sgt. Greg Gularte at (559) 898-0667

Sgt. Greg Gularte  
Fresno County Sheriff Department  
Ag Task Force  
Office (559)898-0667 FAX (559)898-0673  
greg.gularte@fresnosheriff.org