



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Margaret Mims, Sheriff **September 11, 2007**
News Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Marijuana Garden Located While Searching For Wanted Felon

Fresno County Sheriff's Department investigators eradicated more than 3300 marijuana plants in the Jose Basin area of Fresno County yesterday.

On September 10th at approximately 8:00 am, deputies had just been involved in a vehicle pursuit and were searching the Jose Basin area for wanted felon, 27 year old Kevin Marquez.

While searching, the pilot of Eagle One spotted what appeared to be a marijuana grow on a steep hill side in the middle of the search area. Eagle One advised the ground units of the marijuana grow and marked the area using GPS coordinates.

Investigators from the Department's Metro Narcotics Enforcement Team responded to the grow site, and located and destroyed the marijuana plants.

The estimated street value of the plants is approximately \$13,200,000.00.

No arrests were made regarding the discovery of the grow. The investigation is continuing.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact the Narcotics Hotline at 1-800-660-1086, the Fresno County Sheriff's department at 488-3111, or CrimeStoppers at 498-STOP(7867).