



# CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**25-08**

February 18, 2025

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## **TOP FIVE CHP STORIES OF THE WEEK**

*#ICYMI: This week, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) made headlines with several notable incidents, including CHP nabs suspect with 50 pounds of mushrooms, a sideshow pursuit leads to an arrest of a suspect in Sacramento, CHP K-9 'Tripp' helps with drug and weapon bust in Red Bluff, CHP responds to a 'sticky' situation in Hayward and CHP rescues two dogs in East LA and Santa Cruz.*



The list below includes the headline (with a link to the full text) and an excerpt from each announcement. Click on the headlines to access accompanying assets that are available for download.

- [\*\*1. TRAFFIC STOP UNCOVERS FUNGUS AMONG US: 50 POUNDS OF MUSHROOMS SEIZED\*\*](#)

On February 6, an enforcement stop was initiated by a Central Division CHP K-9 officer involving a 2021 Dodge pickup on I-5 Northbound at Nees Avenue in Fresno County. During the contact, the officer smelled the strong odor of burnt marijuana emitting from within the Dodge. The CHP K-9 partner "Shei" was subsequently deployed on the vehicle's exterior and alerted to the presence of narcotics. This led to a probable cause search, resulting in the discovery of approximately 50 pounds of psychedelic mushrooms in the vehicle's bed. The driver, identified as Phillip Yoon, was taken into custody and booked into the Fresno County Jail, charged with possession of mushrooms for sale and transportation of mushrooms across noncontiguous counties.

## **2. PURSUIT FROM SIDESHOW LEADS TO ARREST**

The CHP's Air-21 (A-21) fixed-wing airplane assisted the South Sacramento CHP Office and Sacramento Police Department during an active sideshow operation. As patrol units converged on the scene, both participants and spectators dispersed. A CHP Valley K-9 Unit then initiated a stop on a rapidly moving vehicle. Despite the involvement of multiple agencies, the suspect managed to evade capture while driving at speeds exceeding 160 mph. The suspect led CHP and allied agencies through a lengthy pursuit as units lost sight and discontinued the pursuit. A-21 stayed with the vehicle and coordinated with CHP and allied agencies. The car eventually came to a stop in front of a residence in Sacramento. The vehicle's occupants fled on foot; however, A-21 was able to provide accurate locations, leading to their arrest without further incidents.

## **3. CHP K-9 'TRIPP' HELPS WITH DRUG AND WEAPON BUST IN RED BLUFF**

On February 10, a CHP Red Bluff officer and his K-9 partner, Tripp, were on patrol in Tehama County, within the city of Corning. The officer noticed a white pickup truck without license plates. After initiating an enforcement stop, he spotted several signs of potential criminal activity. The Red Bluff officer called upon our K-9 officer to conduct a free air sniff where Tripp indicated the presence of narcotics. A comprehensive search of the vehicle was conducted. The search led to the discovery of two unregistered, loaded handguns, marijuana plants, processed marijuana, and three fighting roosters.

## **4. CHP HELPS WITH A 'STICKY' SITUATION IN HAYWARD**

On February 7, officers from CHP Hayward responded to a traffic hazard on I-580 at Redwood Road, discovering an unusual sight – thousands of chopsticks dispersed all over the lanes. Someone turned the freeway into

a giant game of pick-up sticks! Unfortunately, this meant a local restaurant might've been short on utensils that night. Let this incident serve as a responsible reminder to secure your load and prevent your cargo from making an unexpected detour. Such circumstances pose a safety risk for everyone.

## 5. ['PAW'SITIVE RESCUES BY CHP IN SANTA CRUZ AND EAST LA](#)

On February 7th, an officer conducting patrol duties on Green Valley Rd, [Santa Cruz](#), spotted a dog, Oreo, roaming dangerously close to traffic. Exhibiting swift and decisive action, the officer controlled the traffic and secured the pet within his patrol vehicle. This swift intervention ensured safety and avoided possible mishaps. The story concluded positively, with the owner expressing immense relief and gratitude upon the safe return of their cherished pet.

On February 11, Officer Alonso responded to a distress call in [East LA](#) involving a puppy stranded on the ledge of a sound wall on the SR-60 in El Monte. The dog was safely recovered and has since been reunited with its owner, from whom it had been separated for a full day.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

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