

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOP FIVE CHP STORIES OF THE WEEK

#ICYMI: A roundup of notable incidents involving the CHP this past week, including the results of a CHP crime suppression operation in the East Bay, the dismantling of a major organized retail crime operation, a dramatic rescue from the Trinity River, a CHP officer who is committed to saving lives on and off the highway, and an online docuseries that gives an inside look at what it takes to become a CHP officer.

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. CHP RELEASES RESULTS OF INITIAL CRIME SUPPRESSION OPERATION IN AND AROUND OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA COUNTY

An initial wave of increased state law enforcement personnel to address the ongoing public safety crisis within Alameda County yields big results in a short period of time – including 71 arrests and the recovery of 145 stolen vehicles and four crime-linked firearms. The <u>results released by Governor Gavin Newsom</u> and the CHP follow the deployment of CHP officers and investigators, who were sent in to conduct proactive operations in high crime areas in the East Bay. The CHP continues to have an increased presence in the city of Oakland. Additional, unannounced crime suppression operations are planned.

2. COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS RESULT IN MAJOR TAKEDOWN OF VAST ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME OPERATION

The <u>CHP</u>, <u>California Department of Justice</u>, and allied federal agencies announce the takedown of a vast organized retail theft operation spanning 21

counties and involving \$8 million worth of stolen beauty products. Since the inception of the Organized Retail Crime Task Force in 2019, the CHP has a part of over 2,300 investigations resulting in the recovery of stolen goods valued at \$41.7 million.

3. <u>CHP HELICOPTER PERFORMS HARROWING RESUCE FROM THE TRINITY RIVER</u>

A driver was rescued on Feb. 10 from the icy waters of the Trinity River after her SUV veered off the road, plunging into the river near Junction City, Calif. After crashing into the rushing water, the driver climbed out of the SUV's window an onto the roof waiting for help atop the submerged vehicle. The CHP's Northern Division Air Operations H-14 performed a rescue, lifting the driver to safety and transporting her to a local hospital for treatment.

4. A CHP OFFICER GIVES HOPE

In 2014, CHP Officer Keith Meter was diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer. In response, scores of officers and other members of the CHP family joined the <u>'Be the Match' registry</u>. Many of those who volunteered to be registered in his name have been, and continue to be, a match for others. One of those volunteers was Robert Becerra, now a CHP officer himself. This video is his story.

5. <u>NEW ONLINE SERIES GIVES THE PUBLIC A 'REAL' GLIMPSE AT ACADEMY LIFE AND WHAT TAKES TO EARN A CHP BADGE</u>

The CHP released <u>Episode 5 of Cadets</u> last week, an online reality series produced entirely by CHP staff. The nine-part docuseries focuses on a cadet class navigating the six-month journey through the CHP Academy. The release of Cadets is part of the CHP's ongoing, multi-year recruitment campaign to recruit and hire 1,000 officers. A new episode will be available on the CHP's YouTube Channel at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Learn more about a career with the CHP and apply today.

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

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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