

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP Media Relations: (916) 843-3310

TOP FIVE CHP STORIES OF THE WEEK

#ICYMI: A roundup of notable incidents involving the California Highway Patrol (CHP) this past week, the safe recovery of two abducted children, the arrest of a freeway shooting suspect in Oakland, the collaborative efforts of a good Samaritan and CHP officers save two kids trapped in a vehicle following a crash, another recruitment milestone for the CHP, and members of the CHP take to plunge to support Special Olympics athletes.

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. TWO CHILDREN ABDUCTED IN RENO FOUND SAFE BY CHP IN TRUCKEE

Two young children were found safe by CHP officers on March 17, following a parental abduction that occurred in Reno, Nevada. Officers from the Truckee CHP office received a *Be-On-The-Lookout* alert for a suspect vehicle that was associated with the kidnapping of a 7-year-old and a 9-year-old and was believed to be heading to California. CHP officers located the vehicle on Interstate 80, east of Soda Springs, and conducted an enforcement stop that resulted in the safe recovery of the two children and the arrest of one of the suspects. The second suspect, the mother of the two children, had exited the vehicle but was located by officers from the CHP's Gold Run Area a short time later along Rainbow Road, near I-80. She was taken into custody without incident. Both suspects were charged with kidnapping.

2. SUSPECT IN BAY AREA FREEWAY SHOOTING ARRESTED BY CHP

A man suspected of firing a weapon on a Bay Area freeway was arrested with a loaded firearm inside the vehicle. The incident occurred on March 17 on westbound Interstate 80 near Maritime Street in Oakland. No injuries were reported. Shortly after the shooting occurred the suspect vehicle was located, and an enforcement stop was conducted. During a search, CHP officers located the weapon inside the vehicle. The suspect was and booked into the Sana Rita Jail. This incident is currently under investigation.

3. TWO CHILDREN TRAPPED AFTER ROLLOVER CRASH IN SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS SAVED

The quick-thinking actions of a good Samaritan helped save the lives of two children who were involved in a rollover crash on March 14 in the Santa Cruz mountains. CHP officers in Santa Cruz responded to a rollover crash involving a pickup where two children were still inside the vehicle. As officers were approaching the scene, they were able to help a community member who was attempting to free the children from the vehicle. Both children were secured in their safety seats, which played a critical role in preventing any serious injuries to them. If you are not confident how to properly secure your child in a safety seat, contact your local CHP office, and ask to speak with a child passenger safety technician.

4. LARGEST CADET CLASS SINCE 2021 ENTERS THE CHP ACADEMY

The CHP reached another recruitment milestone last week amid the campaign to hire 1,000 officers. On March 18, the incoming class of 140 cadets was the largest cadet training class since 2021. The CHP Academy has a total of 350 cadets currently within three Academy classes in training to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. Anyone interested in a rewarding career of service with the CHP is encouraged to visit CHPMadeformore.com.

5. CHP "JUMPS IN" TO SUPPORT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Members of the CHP braved the chilly waters to support Special Olympics Norcal at the Fresno County Polar Plunge on March 16, at Millerton Lake. CHP Captain Austin Matulonis, commander of the Fresno Area office, was joined by local law enforcement partners and community members in the coolest event of the year to help fund support programs for thousands of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

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

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CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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