

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

24-24

April 17, 2024 CHP Media Relations: (916) 843-3310

CHP CRACKDOWN ON ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME LEADS TO NEARLY 500 ARRESTS, RECOVERY OF \$4.2 MILLION IN STOLEN GOODS IN FIRST 3 MONTHS OF 2024

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: State law enforcement officials continue to disrupt organized retail crime in California. This year alone, the CHP's Organized Retail Crime Task Force has made 474 arrests and recovered more than 160,000 stolen goods valued at nearly \$4.2 million.

SACRAMENTO – After a <u>record-setting 2023</u> combatting organized retail crime, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) continues to aggressively disrupt and dismantle illegal operations throughout California. In the first three months of 2024, the CHP has been involved in 185 organized retail crime investigations leading to the arrest of 474 suspects and the recovery of more than 160,000 stolen items valued at nearly \$4.2 million. That's nearly half of all the stolen goods the CHP's Organized Retail Crime Task Force recovered in 2023.

Since the inception of the task force in 2019, the CHP has been involved in nearly 2,500 investigations leading to the arrest of more than 2,500 suspects and the recovery of over 770,000 stolen goods valued at \$42.3 million.

WHAT CHP DEPUTY COMMISSIONER TROY LUKKES SAID: "Keeping the public safe is at the heart of everything we do. These criminals have a negative impact on California's businesses and our communities. We will continue to collaborate with our law enforcement partners throughout the state and use every available resource to dismantle these criminal networks and hold them accountable for their actions."

If you witness one of these crimes occurring, do not attempt to intervene – call 9-1-1.

Members of the public and retailers can also <u>report retail crime</u> tips directly through the CHP's website.

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



Image courtesy of the CHP

###

