THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

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SDPD AND SD CITY SCHOOLS POLICE ANNOUNCE ARRESTS IN UNDERCOVER DRUG OPERATION AT TWO LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS

(San Diego) In September 2006, the San Diego Police Department, the San Diego Unified School District and the San Diego County Integrated Narcotic Task Force began a high school drug interdiction program. The program focused on activity that occurred on and around Patrick Henry and University City High Schools. The operation was initiated to address drug activity in and around the campuses.

SDPD undercover officers posed as students and enrolled at PHHS and UC High. During the fall semester, the officers (in their undercover capacity) bought narcotics either on or near the two campuses. The officers purchased marijuana, ecstasy, psilocybin (magic mushrooms) and prescription pain medication. Approximately 6.3 grams of marijuana, 5 ecstasy pills, 6.4 grams of mushrooms and 12 pain pills were purchased.

Today we arrested nine students from UC High. Those arrested range in age from 15 to 17; 8 are male and one is female. The total number of students arrested at PHHS was six. These students range in age from 15 to 18 and all six are male. Two students arrested today were in possession of marijuana (one from each campus). We will be seeking a warrant for a student who transferred from UC High to a school in Ohio. Three of the students arrested are on probation for drug-related offenses and several are repeat narcotics offenders. The students will be charged with possession of narcotics and possession of narcotics for sales. Some of the students will be charged with an enhancement section for selling narcotics in and around a school campus.

Two students arrested from PHHS are adults and their names are Terry Metsch 12/11/88 and Brent Binger 11/17/88.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drug usage nationwide among juveniles is decreasing, but remains above 30 percent. In 2001, the reported usage among high school students was 42.4 percent; in 2003 it was 40 percent and in 2005 high school drug use had dropped to 38.4 percent.

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