

Stanislaus County, California
Sheriff's Department
Sheriff Adam Christianson

April 10, 2007 (Tuesday)
6:00 PM For immediate release
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Deputies Arrest Man for Selling Weapons to Kids

Turlock, CA-Sheriff's Deputies arrested Joseph BERMUDEZ (09/01/1971) of Chowchilla, CA for selling illegal dangerous weapons to kids. Responding to a tip, deputies went to the Turlock Sales Yard (flea market) on a report of a person selling throwing stars and nunchakus to kids. Deputies found the booth that BERMUDEZ was working out of and arrested him for trafficking and selling weapons and switchblade knives. Deputies confiscated the following items:

- 1) 5 Collapsible batons
- 2) 7 Butterfly knives/ switchblade knives
- 3) 3 Nunchakus
- 4) 14 Brass knuckles
- 5) 18 Pen knives
- 6) 14 Throwing/ ninja stars

"There were over 20 kids looking and trying to buy items while we were arresting the owner," said Deputy Doug Ferguson who is investigating the incident. Deputies do not know how long BERMUDEZ has been selling the items at the flea market, but all the items are illegal to possess. BERMUCEZ was arrested and charged with 32 counts of felony selling of a dangerous weapon (12020(a) PC) and 7 counts of selling a switchblade knife (653K PC). He was booked into the Stanislaus County Jail with a bail of \$15,000.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department at (209) 525-7114. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636 and be eligible for a cash reward.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597.

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