

Stanislaus County, California
Sheriff's Department
Sheriff Adam Christianson

May 10, 2007 (Thursday)
4:00 PM For immediate release
Contact: Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597

Officials Respond to Empty Ammunition Boxes Found on High School Grounds

Patterson, CA- A custodian at Patterson High School found 6 empty boxes of .223 rifle ammunition in front of a dumpster yesterday morning at about 10:00 AM. In response to the discovery of the empty boxes, Patterson School District and Sheriff officials responded by taking some proactive measures on school grounds. The boxes were collected and booked into evidence and will be processed for fingerprints. Officials conducted a search of the school grounds in an attempt to locate any firearms, but none were found. A private bomb and ammunition detection K-9, used by the school district, was also brought in to conduct two sweeps of the school. The first sweep was done yesterday after school and another sweep was done this morning with students on campus. Nothing suspicious was located. The dumpster where the empty boxes were found was taken to the local landfill, opened up, and also searched, but nothing was found.

School officials sent out a district wide alert to parents yesterday evening regarding the incident at the school and the actions taken by the school officials and law enforcement. "School personnel are very thankful to the Sheriff's Department for their presence on campus," said Patrick Sweeney, Patterson School Superintendent. "The Sheriff deputies responded quickly and calmly to search the campus and talk with students and staff."

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Patterson Police at (209) 892-5071. 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.