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PRESS RELEASE

Probation No. 21-09

DATE: 6/11/2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OPERATION SAFE AT HOME

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – On June 10, 2021, the Santa Barbara County Probation Department conducted countywide wellness checks on active Probation, Post Release Community Supervision and Pre-Trial clients. The operation specifically focused on domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and other situations where children, or vulnerable adults were likely residing in the home. The operation covered the Santa Maria, Orcutt, Lompoc, Santa Barbara and Goleta areas.

This operation was one of a series of events the Probation Department has completed during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to ensure the safety and well-being of clients under supervision, as well their families or others living within the same residence. Primary objectives included: assessing the living environments and needs of clients and/or family members, providing information on probation and community resources, and ensuring client compliance with their terms and conditions of probation in order to deter future criminal activity and reduce recidivism. Wellness items were provided to each family and children in the home. The wellness bags included hand sanitizer, first aid kits, sunscreen, water bottles and several brochures for resources available in the community and at the Probation Department. Summer-themed wellness bags distributed to children in sand buckets included sand toys, glow sticks, Play-Dough, bubble wands, game cards, and a magic towel. Sixteen Deputy Probation Officers participated in this successful countywide operation. A total of thirty-four (34) locations were visited, twenty-six (26) contacts were completed, and fifty-five (55) family and child wellness bags were delivered. There were no major violations observed and no arrests were made.

The Santa Barbara County Probation Department is committed to community safety and continues to take a proactive role in accountability and family wellness.

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For more information about the County of Santa Barbara Probation Department, go to <u>www.sbprobation.org</u>.