



Association of California Recycling Industries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycling Leaders Support California's Latest Fraud Enforcement Efforts
CalRecycle Efforts to Protect Consumer Deposits Earns Recycling Leaders Support

San Gabriel, Calif., November 2, 2015 – Today the Association of California Recycling Industries (ACRI) contacted the Director of California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to express its appreciation for the department's latest effort to combat fraud. Recently CalRecycle enlisted the help of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to help protect California's Beverage Container Recycling Fund.

"Each year consumers deposit over one billion dollars into a state-regulated fund when they purchase a qualifying beverage. At the end of the day, consumers are trusting their deposits will be protected and available for redemption. The recent law enforcement efforts taken by CalRecycle will go a long way to ensuring those funds are available for their intended purposes and those who are responsible for fraud are held accountable," said Brett Jones, ACRI President.

CalRecycle recently announced the CHP arrested three truck drivers who were hauling used beverage containers into California with the intent to commit fraud against the state's beverage container program. In each instance, the truck was impounded and the suspect was arrested on charges of felony recycling fraud and attempted grand theft. Only beverage containers that are purchased in California are required to pay the deposit, therefore making them eligible to receive a monetary refund.

"California is just one of several states to collect a deposit on aluminum and other types of recyclable beverage containers. Because so many used cans and bottles can be smuggled into a truck, when those containers make it into the system they can quickly drain the account. We appreciate the latest enforcement efforts by CalRecycle and CHP, and hopefully these arrests and others will send a strong message when it comes to protecting California consumers from fraud," said Brett Jones.

Since 1987 California consumers have been required to pay a refundable deposit when purchasing certain beverage containers. Consumers currently are required to pay \$.05 for each qualifying container which holds less than 24 ounces, and \$.10 for containers that exceeds 24 ounces. Over 18 billion containers are recycled in California each year.

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About the Association of California Recycling Industries: The Association of California Recycling Industries (ACRI), a nonprofit trade association representing the interests of independent recyclers throughout California, is committed to promoting free market principles and ethical practices, fostering awareness of recycling issues, and leading the development of recycling policy. For more information about the Association of California Recycling Industries please visit: www.acrinow.org.