***CCSO MET Busts Four Grows In Six Days***

The Calaveras Marijuana Enforcement Team busts four illegal grows in six days. The first bust was held on the 26th of June in the 19000 block of Old Greek Mine Road in Mountain Ranch. At the property deputies seized 882 growing marijuana plants and found the land littered with trash and debris. Additionally, they located a fire hazard of extension cords in dry foliage leading to a gas generator. However, no suspects were found at the scene. On June 29, two separate and unrelated search warrants were served. The first location was in the 9000 block of Whiskey Slide Road in Mountain Ranch. This time, deputies seized 1,462 growing marijuana plants, but no suspects. Instead, evidence was collected to further their investigation. The 2nd location in the same day was at the 7000 block of Doster Road in Mountain Ranch. 818 growing marijuana plants, nearly a pound of processed marijuana and a suspect was found. 21 year old Livingston man named Santos De Jesus Mendoza was contacted at the scene and placed under arrest. Mendoza was later booked in the county jail on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance for sale and maintaining a premise to sell controlled substances. He was also charged with the misdemeanor of illegal marijuana cultivation in excess of 6 plants. Mendoza was released later that evening for posting the $50,000 bail. The fourth search warrant was served in the 4000 block of Tree Lane in Wilseyville. Deputies seized 419 growing marijuana plants and a firearm. The firearm was a handgun with the serial numbers defaced. At the scene deputies found a 36 year old Paso Robles Man named Domingo Vasquez Jimenez. The suspect was booked into the county jail on felony charges of marijuana cultivation, illegal sale ,maintaining a premise to sell controlled substances and altering a firearm identification mark. Together the charges for Jimenez were set to a bail $150,000. The Calaveras Sheriff’s Office owes their success to receiving several complaints regarding the locations thru their anonymous marijuana tip line. They encourage anyone with knowledge of an illegal operation to call their office at 754-6870.