



Los Angeles County
Sheriff's Department

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY STATION

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www.lasd.org

News Release

Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff

On Wednesday 09/05/2012, deputies from the Santa Clarita Sheriff's Station J-Team (Juvenile Intervention Team), along with deputies from the station's Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) conducted an undercover operation ensuring compliance with local and state laws in regards to retailers who choose to illegally sell bath salts and spice to children and adults in our community.

California Health and Safety Code Section 11357.5 makes it illegal for any person to sell, dispense, distribute, offer to sell, or possess for sale any synthetic cannabinoid compound, or any synthetic cannabinoid derivative. This misdemeanor crime is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail.

Spice, also known as synthetic cannabis is a psychoactive designer drug made from natural herbs sprayed with synthetic chemicals that, when consumed, allegedly mimic the pleasurable effects of marijuana. Bath salts is another name for a family of designer drugs containing numerous chemicals, which have effects similar to amphetamine and cocaine. The white crystals resemble legal bathing products like Epsom salts. Chemically the two have nothing to do with each other. The J-Team works to keep drugs out of our community and away from our youth and schools. Out of four locations checked today, three did not have any of these products for sale. Retailors told our undercover deputy that the word is getting out, and these products are bad, referencing that deputies have a no tolerance policy for the illegal sales of these products. One retailer was arrested and field released on a notice to appear when he was caught selling illegal products. The illegal products were then seized.

When dealing with illegal items such as narcotics, sometimes residents wish to remain anonymous when reporting criminal acts such as narcotic sales. If you wish to remain Anonymous, call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), texting the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

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