



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD (SARB)

All Humboldt County schools utilize a School Attendance Review Board (SARB) to address problems with students who are habitually truant. The intent of SARB is to address problems early on, when attendance issues are first identified, and to work closely with the student and his/her family to find solutions to the problem.

SARB is usually successful with intervention efforts and most attendance issues are resolved after the 1st or 2nd intervention. In severe cases, when regular compliance cannot be attained through intervention efforts, the case is referred to the Humboldt County District Attorney's Office for review. When appropriate, the HCDA's Office files charges against the student's parents for violations of Education Code 48293 (Failure to send a child to compulsory school). In some cases, warrants are issued – commanding that the defendant be brought before a magistrate to address the charges against them.

Within the past month, the HCDA's Office has received several complaints about truant students and their negligent parents. After careful review, charges were brought against (5) parents - Rosalie Herrera, Krissey Hanley, Tiffany Menniweathers, Mandi Naves, and Edythe Donne. Warrants were issued for the arrest of Herrera, Hanley, and Menniweathers. It is anticipated that warrants for the others will be issued soon.

On 05-05-10, HCDA Investigators located Rosalie Herrera (age 48) at her McKinleville residence. Upon contact, she was cited and released for her outstanding warrant with a court date of 05-27-10.

HCDA Investigators then sought the assistance of the Fortuna Police Department, who located Krissey Hanley. Hanley was also cited and released with a court date of 05-26-10.

Menniweathers has also been cited and released on her outstanding warrants.

District Attorney Paul Gallegos stated, "Parents need to understand that children are their responsibility and that they have a responsibility to ensure that they attend school regularly. When they don't, they are harming their child's future. My office is committed to doing everything it can to ensure compliance with school guidelines and the laws pertaining to the children's education."