



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF SHASTA

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Jones Valley Man Convicted of Cultivation and Possession of
Marijuana for Sale

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Late in the day on Wednesday February 11, 2015, a Shasta County jury convicted Robert Leslie Scordel of two felony counts related to an illegal marijuana grow discovered in August of 2013. Scordel was convicted of Cultivation of Marijuana, in violation of Health and Safety Code 11358, and Possession of Marijuana for Sale, in violation of Health and Safety Code 11359. The verdict came one hour after a five day jury trial. Scordel was represented at trial by local civil rights attorney Michael Scheibli.

The charges stem from a marijuana grow that was observed from the air, in the area of Elk Trail drive in Jones Valley. After several neighborhood complaints, the property was further investigated by Shasta County Code Enforcement officers and members of the Sheriff's Department Marijuana Investigative Team. Deputies located almost 250 marijuana plants in various stages of production. One garden of 66 plants, with an expected yield of one pound processed marijuana per plant, was within weeks of harvesting. Scordel and another individual claimed ownership of the cultivation and presented Proposition 215 Compassionate Use Act recommendations. During the course of the investigation and based on statements from both men, it was determined the cultivation was well outside the lawful limits authorized by the Compassionate Use Act and was, in fact, a for profit illegal cultivation. Deputies estimated the value of the marijuana grow at over \$400,000.

The case was investigated by members of the Shasta County Sheriff's Department Marijuana Investigative Team and Shasta County code enforcement officials. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Patricia Van Ert.