Legal Rancho grow site found out of compliance, arrest made

The Valley Springs News / Wednesday, November 22, 2017

One man was arrested and nearly 300 marijuana plants seized Thursday from a registered grow site that was out of compliance in Rancho Calaveras.

According to the Sheriff’s Office, deputies and code compliance officers attempted to conduct a compliance inspection of the registered indoor personal marijuana grow site on the 3500 block of Dunn Road.

Deputies were unable to make contact with anyone at the residence but heard movement and a cell phone ringing inside. They obtained a search warrant and made entry after continuing to receive no answer at the front door.

Deputies made contact with Lin Bin Wei, 66 from Chicago, Ill., once inside. He reportedly was in a bedroom and did not comply with the deputies’ commands. Wei was detained and later arrested on suspicion of illegal cultivation of marijuana.

Deputies eradicated 261 marijuana plants from the areas of the residence where growing was not permitted. These plants were being grown illegally and separate from an additional 200 square feet of permitted growing space. Approximately 43 pounds of processed marijuana was seized.

In addition, the registered grows located inside the residence were measured and determined to be over the permitted square footage. Another 21 marijuana plants were seized from those areas.

Wei was booked into Calaveras County Jail and bail was set at $15,000.