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Press Release

G.R.E.A.T. Gang Resistance Education And Training Graduates it's First Class at Crescent Elk School.

Crescent City, CA June 5, 2009: The first class of students enrolled in the G.R.E.A.T program sponsored by the Crescent City Police Department and the Del Norte Unified School District had it's graduation. The successful completion of this first class has already yielded benefits with improved behavior observed in some of the young participants. Students received their certificates of completion, T-shirts and badges during an informal graduation ceremony at the school earlier this week.

This class started March 11, 2009 and involved the 6th grade students at Crescent Elk. The Crescent City Police, the School District and the Family Resource Center hope to expand the program this fall to include students in both the Fourth and Fifth grades.

The goals of this program include preventing youth crime, violence and gang involvement while building a positive relationship among families, law enforcement and our young people to create a safer and healthier community. Crescent City Police Officer Justin Gill and Reserve Officer Richard Enea were the instructors for the program.

Crescent City Police Chief Douglas Plack noted that this is just one part of the overall effort to stem the growth of gangs in our community. Chief Plack emphasized the importance of support by the Del Norte Unified School District, School Superintendent, Jan Moorehouse and Crescent Elk School Principle, Bill Hartwick in implementing this program.

Additional information regarding this program can be found at the G.R.E.A.T. web site, www.great-online.org.

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