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PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville— A Stockton, California woman is facing drug trafficking charges after being found in possession of over 11 pounds of methamphetamine along an interstate in Madison County.

Guadalupe Tafolla (d.o.b. 1/9/62) is facing one count of Methamphetamine Trafficking and one count of Unlawful Possession with Intent to Deliver Methamphetamine. Both are Class X felonies. During a traffic stop by the Illinois State Police (ISP) on February 22, 2015, the trooper was given consent to search Tafolla's vehicle. It was at that time that multiple bags of methamphetamine were located hidden in her spare tire. The traffic stop occurred on I-70 near the exit for Route 143.

Officers with the Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois (MEGSI), a multi-jurisdictional drug task force, assisted ISP with the investigation. State's Attorney Tom Gibbons praised the work of ISP and MEGSI and their vigilance in their interdiction efforts to stem the flow of drugs not only in Madison County, but also in the U.S. "Due to Madison County's location at the crossroads of our nation's interstate system, we are constantly seeing our highways used for drug trafficking. This case is a perfect example of why, despite shrinking budgets, we need to continue being watchful and step up our interdiction efforts," said Gibbons.

Tafolla, who was charged yesterday afternoon, is in custody at the Madison County Jail in Edwardsville on a \$1,000,000 bond set by Circuit Judge Richard Tognarelli. Maximum penalty for a Class X felony conviction is 6-30 years in prison.

These charges, as well as the statements made herein, are based upon probable cause. The defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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