DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY MASTER'S COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Answer ONLY the specified number of questions from the options provided in each section. Do not answer more than the required number of questions. Each section takes one hour.
- 2. Your answers must be on the paper provided. No more than one answer per page. Do not answer two questions on the same sheet of paper.
- 3. If you use more than one sheet of paper for a question, write "Page 1 of 2" and "Page 2 of 2."
- 4. Write ONLY on one side of each sheet. Use only pen. Answers in pencil will be disqualified.
- 5. Write ----- END ----- at the end of each answer.
- 6. Write your exam identification number in the upper right-hand corner of each sheet of paper.
- 7. Write the question number in the upper right-hand corner of each sheet of paper.

Section 1: Microeconomic Theory—Answer Any Two Questions.

1A. (Econ 201) *n* bystanders witness a crime. Each bystander has two actions: call or do not call the police. If someone calls the police, each bystander gets a value of v; the bystanders who call the police each incur a cost of *c* (assume that v > c > 0). If no one calls the police, all bystanders get 0. The payoff of each bystander is the value (if any) minus the cost (if any). Find the symmetric mixed-strategy Nash equilibrium as a function of n. And calculate the probability that no one calls the police in the equilibrium when $n \rightarrow \infty$.

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1B. (Econ 201) Grace's preferences are described by the utility function $U(x_1, x_2) = \alpha x_1 + \beta ln x_2$. Her income is I and prices of both good are p_1 and p_2 , respectively. α and β are positive constants.

- a. Find her uncompensated demand functions for x_1^* and x_2^* using the Lagrangian method.
- b. Calculate the compensated demand functions for x_1 and x_2 .

1C. (Econ 104) The demands for a monopolist's two products are determined by the equations

 $p = 25 - x, \qquad q = 24 - 2y$

where p and q are prices per unit of the two goods, and x and y are the corresponding quantities. The costs of producing and selling x units of the first good and y units of the other are

$$C(x, y) = 3x^2 + 3xy + y^2$$

- a. Find the monopolist's profit $\pi(x, y)$ from producing and selling x units of the first good and y units of the other.
- b. Find the values of x and y that maximize $\pi(x, y)$. Verify that you have found the maximum profit.

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