



METRICH Enforcement Unit

Information Bulletin

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37 Years Serving North Central Ohio Communities

Inside this issue:

- 435 g meth seized in Mansfield traffic stop 2
Richland County
- 2 arrested after drug task force raids Findlay apartment 2
Hancock County
- Major drug bust in a Tiffinhome 3
Seneca County
- Crawford Special Response Team execute search warrant 3
Crawford County
- Joint operation leads to drug-related arrest of Findlay woman 4
Hancock County
- Tiffin man arrested after traffic stop leads to discovery of drugs 4
Seneca County
- Authorities seize nearly 1000 g of fentanyl in drug raids 5
Marion County
- Games parlor raided 6
Hancock County
- 2022 Regional Stats 7
Region

METRICH/Crawford County sheriff's raid nets drugs, cash and two arrests *Crawford County*

Deputies from the Crawford County Sheriff's Office and the METRICH Enforcement Unit seized suspected drugs, cash, and drug paraphernalia and made two arrests on Friday at 912 Sherman St.

Law enforcement officials served a narcotic search warrant at the conclusion of an investigation into illegal narcotics being used and sold from the property.

Arrested was Amanda L. Hill, 42, and Robert G. Bowersock, 50, according to the Crawford County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies seized suspected methamphetamines, psilocybin mushrooms, marijuana, currency, prescription medication and drug paraphernalia, according to a news release from the sheriff's office.



County Prosecutor's Office for consideration of charges, the sheriff's office said.

This case is still being investigated by the detectives from the sheriff's office.

Crawford County Sheriff Scott Kent and Lt. Craig Moser encourages citizens to report any suspicious activity to the Crawford County Sheriff's Office at 419-562-7906 or leave a tip at METRICH at 1-419-52-CRIME or by downloading the METRICH app to your smart device.



Both individuals were taken to the Crawford County Justice Center. Bowersock was later released. Reports will be forwarded to the Crawford

Originally published in the News Journal on February 9, 2023.

METRICH Central Office
30 N. Diamond Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

435 grams of methamphetamine seized in Mansfield traffic stop *Richland County*

A Mansfield traffic stop led to the seizure of 435 grams of methamphetamine and the arrest of the driver, the METRICH Enforcement Unit confirmed.

METRICH said its detectives conducted an illegal drugs investigation into the Mansfield community on Jan. 5.

The traffic stop in the 600 block of South Diamond Street resulted in the methamphetamine seizure by METRICH detectives and Mansfield Police Patrol, according to METRICH.

METRICH identified the driver as 21-yearold Elijah Myers, who was charged with felony drug possession and is being held



at the Richland County Jail.

The case is being presented to the Richland County Prosecutor’s Office for further charges, according to METRICH.

METRICH Lt. Steve Blust stated that this was a direct result of cooperation amongst partner law enforcement agencies and tips received from the community.

Lt. Blust encourages the community to continue reporting suspected drug activity to help the METRICH Enforcement Unit to continue to “seek those that pollute our streets with narcotics.”

Originally published on cleveland19.com on January 8, 2023.

2 arrested after drug task force raids Findlay apartment *Hancock County*

On Wednesday evening, the Hancock County METRICH Drug Task Force, the Findlay Police Department Emergency Response Team, and Findlay Fire Department Tactical EMS executed a search warrant at 345 E. Sandusky St. Apt. B in Findlay, Ohio.

The search of the residence yielded methamphetamine, numerous prescription pills, marijuana and THC products, as well as a large amount of drug paraphernalia. Other items indicative of drug trafficking were also seized, according to a press release from

METRICH.

The evidence substantiated the ongoing investigation into the residence for suspected drug possession and drug trafficking.

As a result of the search, Davina M. Martinez, 45, and James K. Rhine, 46, were arrested and taken to the Hancock County Justice Center. Martinez and Rhine are residents of 345 E. Sandusky St. Apt. B in Findlay, Ohio. They were both charged with possession of methamphetamine. Martinez was charged with a third-degree felony and Rhine was charged with a fifth-degree

felony, according to the release.

Additional charges of drug trafficking and drug possession are expected at the conclusion of the investigation, according to the release.

The Hancock County METRICH Drug Enforcement Unit is supported by METRICH in Mansfield, Ohio, and funded in part by the Office of Criminal Justice Services. The investigation is ongoing

Originally published on the TiffinOhio.Net Staff website on January 19, 2023

Drug Task Force make major drug bust inside a Tiffin home *Seneca County*

The Seneca County Drug Task Force, along with the Seneca County Sheriff's Office, the Tiffin Police Department and Seneca County Probation Services executed a drug-related search warrant at a home in the 100-block of 8th Avenue Friday.

Inside, authorities found what they describe as large amounts of methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl, marijuana, THC products and criminal tools. The home, which belongs to Jessie J. Jarvis, Sr., 46, of Tiffin, is currently in the Seneca County Jail for an unrelated probation violation stemming from previous charges of improper handling of a

firearm, failure to comply with signal of a peace officer and aggravated possession of drugs. Authorities say additional charges of trafficking in cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl and THC, along with possession of criminal tools could be added pending the outcome of the investigation.

Three others were found inside the home. Charges could be pending against them once the results of laboratory analysis of the suspected narcotics discovered inside the home come back.

"Mr. Jarvis has been on our radar for quite some time," Unit Coordinator Brandon Bell with



the Seneca County Drug Task Force said. "Apparently being out on judicial release and on probation supervision is not enough for Jessie to get the message to walk the straight and narrow. We hope he gets the message now."

Originally published on the nbc24.com website on February 26th 2023

Crawford County Special Response Team execute search warrant *Crawford County*

On January 27, 2023, the Crawford County Sheriff's Office - METRICH concluded a several-month narcotics investigation at 1220 N. Sandusky Ave. Bucyrus, Ohio. The Crawford County Special Response Team (SRT) executed the narcotic search warrant. The SRT consists of members of the Sheriff's Office, Bucyrus Police Department, Crestline Police Department, Galion Police Department, and New Washington Police Department, along with the Bucyrus and Galion Fire Departments.

The target of the investigation

was Zachary McIntyre, age 32, and Stevena Gruber, age 43, who resides at this address.

Methamphetamine, prescription pills, Psilocybin mushrooms, and drug paraphernalia were seized from the residence. Seven adults and four children were living inside this residence. The adults were all detained and brought to the jail until Detectives could interview them. McIntyre and Gruber remain in the Justice Center, and the rest were released. They will both be facing drug trafficking charges, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Gruber

was also charged with illegal conveyance into a detention facility.

This report will be forwarded to the Crawford County Prosecutor's Office for review and consideration of additional charges. Bucyrus Police Department, along with Bucyrus Fire Department, assisted at the scene. Children Services was also called to the scene due to the children at the residence. The Crawford County dog warden was contacted for the dog.

Originally published on the By Crawford County Now Staff website on January 27, 2023.

Joint operation leads to drug-related arrest of Findlay woman

Hancock County

A joint operation led by the Hancock County METRICH Drug Task Force resulted in the arrest of a 35-year-old woman on drug-related charges Tuesday.

According to the authorities, the team, consisting of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office, the Findlay Police Department, and the SPCA of Hancock County, executed a search warrant at a residence located at 614 Putnam St., Findlay, Ohio.

The search yielded approximately 2.5 kilograms of marijuana, 34 grams of psilocybin mush-

rooms, 226 grams of hashish wax, 461 THC vape pens and cartridges, 59 packages of THC edibles, and \$1,667 in cash. Also found were several items of paraphernalia and items indicative of drug trafficking, according to a press release from METRICH.

As a result of the operation, Brittany M. Hill, 35, was arrested and taken to the Hancock County Justice Center. She faces charges of possession of marijuana, possession of psilocybin, and possession of THC wax — all of which are third-degree felonies.

The SPCA of Hancock County also cited Hill for some animal violations, but it is unclear what those violations entail. Additional drug-related charges are expected to be filed at the conclusion of the investigation, according to the release.

The authorities did not release any further information about the case, and it is not clear whether anyone else was involved.

Originally published on the TiffinOhio.net Staff on February 22, 2023.

Tiffin man arrested after traffic stop leads to discovery of drugs

Seneca County

A Tiffin man was arrested Tuesday after authorities executed a search warrant on his vehicle during a traffic stop on County Road 54.

The Seneca County Drug Task Force – METRICH Enforcement Unit, along with additional units from the Seneca County Sheriff's Office and the Tiffin Police Department, executed the search warrant on a vehicle driven by 58-year-old Jeffery S. Collins, of Tiffin.

The search unveiled suspected methamphetamine and U.S. currency, according to a press release from METRICH.

Collins was arrested at the sce-

ne for possession of methamphetamine and possession of criminal tools. All charges are pending laboratory analysis and the conclusion of the entire drug investigation.

A subsequent search of Collins' residence, located at 686 S. Sandusky St., Lot #79, Tiffin, unveiled drug paraphernalia and criminal tools, according to the release.

"The collaborative efforts of the drug task force, Tiffin Police Department, and Seneca County Sheriff's Office were on full display this evening," Seneca County Sheriff Fred Stevens said in the release. "As always I would en-



courage citizens to continue to report suspicious activity to their local agencies or the Seneca County Drug Task Force – METRICH Enforcement Unit drug hotline at (419) 443-0463."

Originally published on TiffinOhio.net Staff on March 29, 2023.

Authorities seize nearly 1,000 grams of fentanyl in drug raids *Marion County*

Agents from the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force and other law enforcement agencies seized nearly 1,000 grams of fentanyl during a midweek raid, which was the culmination of what officials are calling "a major drug trafficking investigation."

Major Chris Adkins of the Marion Police Department and the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force said local law enforcement agents in concert with agents from the Cleveland and Cincinnati offices of the FBI executed search warrants at four locations on Wednesday in Marion and Morrow counties. He said the raids netted a total of 941 grams of suspected fentanyl, three firearms, and drug paraphernalia.

Agents arrested Christopher B. Payne Jr., age 24, Marion, who was charged with two counts of trafficking in a fentanyl-related compound, both first-degree felonies, when he appeared in Marion Municipal Court. Bond for Payne was set at \$5 million. He is being held at the Multi-County Correctional Center in Marion. He is scheduled to appear in municipal court for a preliminary hearing at 8:30 a.m. on March 24, according to online court records.

Adkins said agents executed search warrants at a residence in the 800 block of Adams Street in Marion, a residence in the 800 block of Central Drive in Marion, a residence in the 600 block of Pearl Street in Marion, and a resi-

dence in the 5000 block of Township Road 59 in Mount Gilead. Payne was arrested at the Pearl Street residence, Adkins said.

"This is an ongoing investigation," Adkins said. "This is a very significant seizure of fentanyl. On average, two milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal, so with the amount that we seized, it could kill approximately 470,000 people. We're losing a lot of people to fentanyl. In Marion County, we lose an average of 40 people a year to fentanyl. For a community our size, the number of deaths that we have from fentanyl is staggering."

According to the affidavit filed in support of the arrest warrant for Payne, he allegedly sold fentanyl to confidential informants on two occasions in December 2022 and January 2023. In the affidavit, Det. Stacy McCurry of the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force stated that on Dec. 28, 2022, Payne allegedly "sold fentanyl to a confidential informant, who was working with the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force. (Payne allegedly) supplied the fentanyl to the confidential informant for \$680. The suspected fentanyl that (Payne allegedly) sold was tested by the Mansfield Police Crime Lab and was found to be 49.64 grams of a substance containing fentanyl. This is enough fentanyl to kill nearly 25,000 people."

McCurry said the second inci-



dent occurred on Jan. 10, 2023, when Payne allegedly "sold fentanyl to a confidential informant, who was working with the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force. (Payne allegedly) supplied the fentanyl to the confidential informant for \$780. The suspected fentanyl that (Payne allegedly) sold was tested by the Mansfield Police Crime Lab and was found to be 26.74 grams of substance containing fentanyl. This is enough fentanyl to kill nearly 13,000 people."

Adkins said the Marion Police Department, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Wyandot County Sheriff's Office, Marion County Prosecutor's Office, and the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio were all involved in the investigation and subsequent raids on Wednesday.

Originally published in the Marion Star on March 17, 2023.

Games parlor raided *Hancock County*

Lucky Dragon Internet Cafe was raided by local law enforcement agencies Monday afternoon.

The Hancock County METRICH Drug Task Force, Findlay Police Department, Hancock County Sheriff's Office, Ohio Investigative Unit and city of Findlay Street Department executed a search warrant at the cafe about 1:50 p.m. The search warrant stemmed from an ongoing investigation into numerous citizen complaints about the 1107 Tiffin Ave. business, according to

a release from METRICH Drug Enforcement Unit.

Complaints included the use and sale of illegal narcotics by patrons within the business, a survived overdose and illegal cash payouts via gaming machines operated inside the cafe.

Seized from the business were 60 electronic video gaming devices, four large tabletop gaming devices, a "Queen of Hearts" gaming board with payouts and a total of \$53,047 cash from gaming devices, payout machines and busi-

ness profits.

The owner of the Lucky Dragon Internet Cafe could face charges of gambling and operating a gambling house pending the outcome of the investigation.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, you may seek help by calling the Ohio Problem Gambling Hotline at 888-589-9966.

Originally published in The Courier on March 14, 2023.



DEA NATIONAL ^{Rx}
TAKEBACK

April 22, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The image features a logo for the DEA National Rx Takeback program on the left, with the text "DEA NATIONAL Rx" in blue and "TAKEBACK" in white on a red and blue background. To the right of the logo is a photograph of several red and blue capsules spilled from a yellow pill bottle. The background of the entire graphic is a gradient from light blue to dark blue.

2022 REGIONAL STATS

CASE ACTIVITY

New Cases	1,269	Felony 1	99
Search Warrants	511	Felony 2	137
Non-Fed Indictments	771	Felony 3	215
Fed Indictments	71	Felony 4	197
INTEL	3,201	Felony 5	560

Drug	Cultivation	Manufacturing	Trafficking	Possession	Amount
Cocaine			43	41	2,153.79g
Crack			19	1	871.71g
Ecstasy			1	0	1,076UD
Fentanyl/Fentanyl Mix			93	54	3,097.64g
Heroin			4	3	1,011.40g
LSD			9	2	156UD
Marijuana -processed			13	12	31,329.47g
Methamphetamine			167	162	8,305.63g
Psilocybin Mushrooms			1	0	126g

Rx ACTIVITY

Rx Cases	28	Felony 1	0
		Felony 2	0
Indictments	5	Felony 3	1
		Felony 4	3
		Felony 5	1

Drug	Amount Seized
Alprazolam	144 UD
Amphetamine Mixture	69 UD
Buprenorphine	137 UD
Gabapentin	389 UD
Hydrocodone	5 UD
Other Rx	3,463 UD
Oxycodone	118 UD
Percocet	88 UD
Tramadol	1,399 UD

MISC

Asset	Seized	Non-Drug Cases	
			289
		Demand Reduction	64
CURRENCY	\$97,862.00	Firearms	130

37Years Serving North Central Ohio Communities



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 30 N. Diamond St
 Mansfield, Ohio 44902
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METRICH (Metro-Richland County) Enforcement Unit is a ten county law enforcement task force created to address multi-jurisdictional violators of Ohio's drug, weapons, and organized crime statutes. The project operates with a basic "Community Policing Philosophy" using a "Weed and Seed Strategy" from ten "de-centralized" offices.

Participating agencies: Ashland, Crawford, Hancock, Huron, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, Wyandot County Sheriff's Offices and Prosecutors Offices; Ashland, Loudonville, Bucyrus, Crestline, Galion, Findlay, Bellevue, Greenwich, Monroeville, New London, Norwalk, Plymouth, Wakeman, Willard, Danville, Fredericktown, Martinsburg, Mt. Vernon, Marion, Cardington, Mt. Gilead, Bellville, Butler, Lexington, Mansfield, Ontario, Shelby, Fostoria, Tiffin, Carey, Upper Sandusky Police Departments; Ohio State Highway Patrol; Ohio Department of Public Safety; BCI&I, Ohio State Board of Pharmacy; FBI; ATF; DEA; IRS.

Points of Contact

Ashland County

Det. Kody Hying, Access Officer (419) 289-3639

Crawford County

Lt. Craig Moser, Access Officer (419) 562-7906

Hancock County

Sgt. Jason Seem, Access Officer (419) 424-7887

Huron County

Det. Jim Gilliam, Access Officer (419) 663-2828

Knox County

Lt. Det. Bethany Marti, Access Officer (740) 393-9500

Marion County

Lt. Jamie Ralston, Access Officer (740) 387-2222

Morrow County

Det. Rob Chalfant, Access Officer (419) 946-4444

Richland County

Lt. Steve Blust Access Officer (419) 755-9677

Seneca County

Det Brandon Bell, Access Officer (419) 443-0463

Wyandot County

Lt. Kerwin Wiseley, Access Officer (419) 294-2362

FBI

S/A Drew Stragar-Rice (419) 525-2200