

PRESS RELEASE

METRICH Enforcement Unit
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTE SEARCH WARRANT IN **SENECA COUNTY**

On Tuesday, January 20 2009, the Seneca County Drug Task Force-METRICH Enforcement Unit, consisting of the Fostoria Police Department, Tiffin Police Department, Seneca County Sheriff's Office & the Seneca County Prosecutor's Office, along with Agents from the Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation (BCI&I), Zero Tolerance Task Force (Fostoria, Ohio) and Agents from the DEA Task Force (Toledo Division) executed a drug related Search Warrant at 4159 North CR 33, Pleasant Township, Seneca County, OH, that being the residence of Juan Martinez, 58 YOA.

The search warrant signed by Judge Paul Kutscher of the Seneca County Probate Court unveiled a substantial amount of marijuana & criminal tools.

The search warrant stemmed from an investigation initially opened by the Warren County Drug Task Force & Customs/Border Protection, which intercepted a suspicious parcel package that was coming from the state of Texas and delivered to the Pleasant Township residence. Upon further investigation, Agents found that the package contained a large amount of marijuana, at which time they contacted the Seneca County Drug Task Force – METRICH Enforcement Unit.

The METRICH Unit continued the investigation in Seneca County, delivered the suspicious package and subsequently executed a search warrant on the rural area residence. Agents from BCI & I, Zero Tolerance Task Force and the DEA Task Force assisted the Seneca County Drug Task Force – METRICH Unit with the execution of the search warrant.

Arrested was fifty-eight year old Juan Martinez for Trafficking in Marijuana, a Felony of the Third Degree. Mr. Martinez is presently being held in the Seneca County Jail pending prosecution.

"This investigation is just a small example of what we have to look forward to with our continued support of multiple jurisdictions working together to combat the increasing drug concerns in our communities." Sgt.-Det. Donald R. Joseph said.

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:
1-800-589-DARE and www.METRICH.com

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