

Cops arrest 'very dangerous man'

One dangerous drug suspect. Two highly-trained tactical squads.

Seven members of the Norwalk Police Department and Huron County Sheriff's Office special response teams (SRTs) used a "no-knock search warrant" because of the "unpredictable temperament" of Edward E. Blair, Chief Dave Light said. He was on-hand along with five detectives when officers used the warrant about 11 p.m. Saturday.

Three people saw Blair with a handgun "all within the last month," Light said. However, the SRTs weren't able to find the weapon at the suspect's 32 Glover Ave. home Saturday.

During the incident, police seized prescription pills, assorted drug paraphernalia, items stolen from various area businesses and a crossbow as evidence. Detective Sgt. Todd Temple said Blair is accused of threatening a Norwalk resident with the crossbow in September; he referred further questions to Light.

"Blair is such a paranoid individual he held the loaded crossbow at (the confidential informant's) face. He held it up because he was suspicious the guy was an informant," Light said.

Luckily, the informant was smart enough to back away from Blair and leave, the chief said, and "returned another day" to set up the drug buy.

Temple said Blair's arrest should have a "domino effect" on other drug dealers.

"I think a lot more people are going to fall as a result," the drug investigator said.

Blair currently is in custody at the Huron County Jail on two counts of trafficking in drugs. Police expect to file additional charges.

"I think we're going to have a total of five cases," Temple said. "Additional arrests are expected on other people."

The current investigation was overseen by METRICH, a 10-county drug task force.

"We started in May sometime," Temple said.

A couple years ago, Blair held an ice pick at an informant's throat, Light said.

"He's a very dangerous man. That's why we made the decision to use the SWAT teams," he added.

Originally published in the Norwalk Reflector on December 15, 2009.