

Drug trafficking leads to indictments against two

Two Mount Vernon men were indicted Monday by the Knox County grand jury for drug trafficking-related charges following separate law enforcement searches on the same day.

During a probation check March 3, William Horner, 65, Mount Vernon, was found to possess over 22 grams of methamphetamine wrapped inside a bundle of \$400 cash, according to Knox County Prosecuting Attorney Chip McConville. Horner is charged with aggravated possession of drugs, a second degree felony, and aggravated trafficking in drugs, a second- degree felony.

Allen Wheeler, 55, homeless, was pulled over on the same day by Mount Vernon Police due to failure to signal and an unilluminated license plate. During the traffic stop, officers noticed a drug use instrument inside the car in plain view and conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle which led to the discovery of drugs, according to Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nicole Derr.

Wheeler was found to possess approximately 4.5 grams of methamphetamine and 5.8 grams of heroin. Derr said that law enforcement found small baggies in Wheeler's possession. This, together with \$668 cash, led to the belief that the drugs were intended for sale.

Wheeler is charged with aggravated possession of drugs, a third-degree felony, aggravated trafficking in drugs, a third-degree felony, possession of heroin, a third degree felony, trafficking in heroin, a third-degree felony, illegal use or possession of drug paraphernalia (a meth pipe), a fourth-degree misdemeanor, and no illumination of rear license plate, a minor misdemeanor.

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