

## Fentanyl, crack cocaine, guns, cash seized in Marion hotel raid

Police seized drugs, guns, and cash, and made one arrest during a raid conducted this week.

According to Lt. Chris Adkins of the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force, law enforcement agents discovered 9.2 grams of crack cocaine, 3 grams of suspected fentanyl, 4 firearms, and



\$5,100 in cash while executing a warrant on Tuesday, Aug. 18 at America's Best Value Inn, 1952 Marion-Mount Gilead Road, Marion.

David W. Davis Jr., 40, Marion, was arrested on suspicion of drug trafficking, according to Adkins. Davis is incarcerated at the Multi-County Correctional Center in Marion, according to jail records.

According to the Marion Municipal Court website, the following charges have been filed against Davis: trafficking in cocaine, a fourth-degree felony; trafficking in heroin, a fourth-degree felony; and eight counts of having a weapon under disability, each of which is a third-degree felony. No bond amount has been set, according to court records.

A preliminary hearing has been scheduled at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 28 in Marion Municipal Court.

Adkins said this marks the "second time in recent months" that METRICH-MARMET has executed a search warrant for drug trafficking at America's Best Value Inn in Marion. In May,

agents and deputies arrested two people and seized 71 grams of suspected crack cocaine during a warrant search at the hotel.

"A lot of hotels are used for drug trafficking because it's not (the traffickers') residence," Adkins said. "It's a way for drug traffickers to hide themselves instead of doing deals in neighborhoods where, now with COVID, there's a lot more individuals that are home. Drug trafficking in the local hotels has always been an issue, though.

"This hotel seems to be used quite a bit. Why that is, I don't know. But this hotel definitely has the attention of law enforcement as well as the administrators of the drug task force."

METRICH-MARMET detectives executed this week's search along with deputies from the Marion County Sheriff's Office and officers from the Adult Parole Authority.

"Chief Bill Collins, Prosecutor Ray Grogan, and I continue to support and provide resources for the METRICH-MARMET Drug Task Force to fight drug crimes locally," Marion County Sheriff Tim Bailey said. "This continues to be a Nationwide issue and we will not ignore it locally."

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