



Media Alert

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Sheriff

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WCSO, ATF & WSU POLICE CONDUCT RAIDS TARGETING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN SENIOR HOUSING

Individuals accused of taking over apartments to sell drugs, weapons.

Detroit (July 29, 2013) – A multi-jurisdictional effort to protect senior citizens and reduce crime shut down several narcotics operations conducted at two senior housing complexes in Detroit. The *“Save Our Seniors”* investigation led to today’s execution of 87 warrants against 46 individuals. So far, 32 subjects are in custody. The defendants are accused of committing felony assaults and selling narcotics (cocaine, heroin and marijuana) and firearms at Orchestra Towers (3501 Woodward) and Cityview Towers (4701 Chrysler Service Drive).

Today’s early morning raids by the Wayne County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATF) and Wayne State University Police Department (WSUPD) were simultaneously conducted starting at 7 a.m. Law enforcement officials say the suspects would intimidate and overtake seniors’ apartments to distribute narcotics.



“They’re pushing dope in these buildings, terrorizing our most vulnerable citizens, and that won’t be tolerated,” said Sheriff Napoleon. **“With our partners at the ATF and WSU, we’ve been able to make this building safer and, hopefully, these seniors will rest a lot easier tonight.”** Napoleon activated the WC Special Response Team to help execute the warrants which drew applause from those watching.

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“We determined that several suspects were actually residents which meant we needed to make solid cases to ensure they don’t return to continue their drug activities,” said WSU Police Chief Anthony Holt. “We’re doing what we can to create safe living environments for the seniors surrounding our campus.”

Operation SOS was initiated following several tips to the Detroit Housing Commission in November. Of the 46 arrest warrants issued, eight are federal defendants. The remaining thirty-eight defendants are facing state charges. Only one suspect was female and another defendant was wheelchair bound. All were arrested on charges of trafficking narcotics. Those arrested were transported to Jail Division 3 for processing and should be arraigned in the next few days. Federal agents say the charges could bring anywhere from # to ## years in prison on the various charges.

“The first priority of ATF is to make our communities safer from violent criminals, narcotics trafficking and firearm violence. These threats to communities are even more reprehensible when senior citizens and students are the targets, said ATF Acting Special Agent in Charge Daryl McCrary. “I commend the dedication and hard work of the ATF Agents, Wayne State University Public Safety Department and the Wayne County Sheriff’s Office.”

Mugshots of the numerous individuals arrested in today’s operation will be forwarded once they have been processed. More arrests are expected in this case as the remaining suspects are located. The office of the U.S. Attorney, Detroit Firearms Investigative Team and Wayne County Prosecutor’s office also assisted in today’s action. For more information please email pbridges@waynecounty.com.

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MUGSHOTS

Lloyd Collins

Kenneth Burris

Sidney Lloyd

Willie McBride

Chontay Davis

Johnny Wells

Timothy Riley

Rodney Edwards

Lawrence DeShazor

Charles Brown

Lawrence Sanders

Lavern Harden

Antonio Boyd

Clarence Perkins

Nathan Braswell

Daniel Walls

James Lacey

Terone Hayes

Marvin Barksdale