



For Immediate Release

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**Sex Offender Compliance Check in Anderson County Nets Seven Arrests
The Two-Day Operation Aims to Ensure Sex Offenders Follow the Law**

Knoxville, Tenn - From July 13 to July 14, Smoky Mountains Fugitive Task Force officers from the U.S. Marshals Service, the Knoxville Police Department, the Sevier County Sheriff's Office, the Anderson County Sheriff's Department and the Seventh Judicial District Drug Task Force conducted its 2016 sex offender compliance operation in Anderson County. Dubbed "Operation Rocky Top," officers conducted a county-wide compliance and enforcement initiative to ensure sex offenders were following the guidelines of the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry. Throughout the two-day operation, officers conducted 39 sex offender compliance checks that resulted in the following:

One sex offender was arrested for violation of the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry;
One individual was arrested for being a Felon in possession of a firearm;
Two individuals were arrested for Possession, Sale and Delivery of a Schedule II Substance;
One individual was arrested for Violation of Probation;
One individual was arrested for Domestic Assault;
One individual was arrested for Possession of a Schedule VI Substance; and
One firearm, several drug paraphernalia, and a small amount of drugs were seized.

In addition to the above arrests and seizures, three investigations (two on sex offenders and one on an individual under *Community Corrections For Life*) will be referred to the Anderson County Grand Jury for possible prosecution.

"We are thankful to have strong working relationships with our local counterparts. We will continue to work together in an effort to make East Tennessee a safer place for everyone," stated Jimmy Fowler, U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

"The Anderson County Sheriff's Department greatly appreciates the assistance of the U.S. Marshals Service and our sister agencies on the Smoky Mountains Fugitive Task Force, and we are very pleased with the results of this operation," stated Anderson County Chief Deputy Mark Lucas. "Joint efforts like this operation are necessary to ensure the safety of our communities."

The U.S. Marshals Service has three key missions under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006: (1) to assist state, local, tribal and territorial authorities in the location and apprehension of noncompliant sex offenders; (2) to investigate violations of the criminal provisions of the Adam Walsh Act; and (3) to identify and locate displaced sex offenders resulting from a major disaster. Since

January 2009, the Marshals have partnered with law enforcement personnel from more than 3,000 state and local agencies to coordinate and execute sex offender compliance/enforcement operations throughout the country.

Further information on the Anderson County Sheriff's Department can be found at:

<http://www.tnacso.net/>

Further information on the Smoky Mountains Fugitive Task Force can be found at:

<http://www.usmarshals.gov/district/tn-e/taskforces/index.html>

Additional information about the U.S. Marshals Service can be found at

<http://www.usmarshals.gov>.

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