



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

March 11, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Undercover Drug Operation Nets 84 Indictments

Eighty-four indictments for forty persons on drug related charges have been returned by an Anderson County Grand Jury after the second phase of an undercover operation by the Anderson County Sheriff's Department and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Special Operations Unit and agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation continued the undercover operation which began in late 2007. Those indicted either sold to undercover agents or were in possession of illegal drugs for resale. These indictments also include charges resulting from meth lab investigations over the last several months. All persons are charged with sale or possession for sale of marijuana, cocaine, and prescription or legend drugs, as well as methamphetamine related offenses. These ongoing drug investigations have resulted in the arrest of some eighty-six individuals.

Sheriff's investigators were assisted in some of these cases by the Morgan County and Campbell County Sheriff's Departments, and the Lake City, Oliver Springs, and Oak Ridge Police Departments. This cooperation led to the indictments of several individuals.

Anderson County Sheriff's deputies, along with officers from the Morgan County Sheriff's Department, the Lake City and Oliver Springs Police Departments, as well as State Troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, are out across Anderson County arresting those persons indicted. This operation includes officials from the District Attorney's Office, the Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force, and the Counterdrug Task Force of the Tennessee National Guard. This sweep will continue throughout the day in an effort to arrest as many of these persons as possible.

These indictments come after much hard work by the investigators of the Sheriff's Special Operations Unit and special agents of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. The District Attorney General's Office also assisted investigators by preparing and presenting these cases to the Grand Jury.

"Once again, a cooperative effort has led to a number of arrests on drug offenses," said Sheriff Paul White. "We will continue to work together with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to go after those who sell drugs in Anderson County," continued Sheriff White. "Our thanks to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Lake City Police Department, and the District Attorney's Office for their help with us in this operation."

"This most recent undercover drug operation should reinforce in the minds of drug dealers and manufacturers in Anderson County that we are always out looking for them," said District Attorney General Dave Clark. "Anderson County is not a good place for them to be doing business," continued General Clark. "They need to quit what they are doing or find a new place to do it. Otherwise, we will make new housing arrangements for them."

The names of those indicted will not be released until as many persons as possible have been arrested. Information on those arrested or wanted in connection with these indictments will be released at a later date.

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