

PEMISCOT COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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GENERAL PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION

During a two week joint investigation, involving agents of the Bootheel Drug Task Force, Pemiscot County Sheriff's Office, Dunklin Co Sheriff's Office, ATF, Caruthersville, Kennett, Hayti Police Departments, Agents of the Second Judicial Task Force of Arkansas, Mississippi County Arkansas Sheriff's Office, and Blytheville AR Police Department has resulted in the Arrest of Four suspects, the seizure of approximaey \$470,000.00 of Methamphetamine, Cash, Wepons, and property

The investigation began approximely 6 months ago, when two agents of the Bootheel Drug Task force had a saw offed shotgun pulled on them during a drug investigation. An investigation by the ATF, and bootheel Drug Task farce lead to numerouse Search Warrants being served in Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties. Information obtained lead Agents to discover a large Methaphedamie Trafficking Ring operating in Missouri and Arkansas.

A result in the information gained led to more search warrants being served in the last two weeks, in Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties, and the purchasing of Methamphetamine from Dealers in Arkansas. Felony Drug cases have been filed in Dunklin County Circuit Court, Pemiscot County Circuit Court, and Blytheville Municipal Court.

Approximately 6 pounds of Methamphetamine, \$130,000.00 cash, 10 weapons, \$25,000.00 in other various property.

Arrested and Charged in Dunklin County:

DENNIS WHEELER, W/M AGE 31 OF BEAUFORT, MO, Charged with Trafficking Meth. Bond Set at \$250,000.00 cash only

RON C JEFFERSON, B/M AGE 36, OF BLYTHEVILLE, AR, Charged with Trafficking Meth, Bond \$500,000.00 cash only

WARD HARDEN W/M AGE 48, OF KENNETT, MO Charged with Trafficking, Released on Bond from Dunklin Co.

ARRESTED AND CHARGE IN BLYTHEVILLE AR:

MANUEL CASTANEDA M/M AGE 30 OF BLYTHEVILLE, AR, Charged with Trafficking Meth, Held noBond pending Court Appearance

This investigation is on going morre arrest expected at a later date.

Tommy Greenwell

Sheriff, Director BDTF