



Oregon-Idaho
HIDTA
Website

In this Issue...

Click on initiative
name for direct
link to page



Blue Mountain
Enforcement
Narcotics Team

Clackamas
County
Interagency
Task Force

Central Oregon
Drug
Enforcement

Douglas
Interagency
Narcotics Team

HIDTA
Interdiction
Taskforce

Idaho State Police
DHE

Medford Area
Drug and Gang
Enforcement

Multnomah
County DDT

Oregon State
Police DHE

Rogue Area
Drug Enforcement

Special Assistant
United States
Attorney

U.S. Marshals
Fugitive
Task Force

Westside
Interagency
Narcotics

Training Initiative

Initiative Activity



Director's Message

In addition to conducting the impactful investigations which are detailed in this newsletter, the first quarter of 2023 was spent preparing the 2022 Annual Report, the 2024 Threat Assessment, and 2024 Initiative Budget Description Proposals (IBDP) and line-item budget requests. All of the current initiatives presented their reports and proposals to the appropriate Executive Board committees for consideration. After having to make some very difficult funding decisions, the committee recommended a balanced \$4.229M budget which the Executive Board approved on May 25th. That package will be sent to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) for further review and approval by June 15th. Copies of the 2022 Annual Report and the 2024 Threat Assessment will be posted to the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA website - www.oridhidta.org – in the reports section also by June 15th. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the process this year!

In addition to closing the 2022 and opening the 2024 budget processes, the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA submitted four 2023 discretionary fund proposals totaling \$660,285. Two of the proposals are for drug demand reduction education projects, one is for investigative equipment, and one is to continue to provide analysts to support firearms tracing and forensic ballistic analysis efforts in Oregon for guns seized by HIDTA initiatives.

Nearly 100 drug task force commanders and personnel from Idaho, Oregon and Washington came together in Pendleton on May 22-24 for a Tri-State Narcotics Unit Supervisors and Commanders Summit. The summit was designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of all who participate and the investigative teams that they work with. Summit attendees received relevant trade based and leadership training and also had the opportunity to exchange case related information and to network. The event was co-sponsored by the Oregon-Idaho and the Northwest HIDTA programs as well as the Washington State Narcotics Investigators Association (WSNIA).

Finally, the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA and Oregon Narcotics Enforcement Association (ONEA) Executive Boards are accepting nominations for drug enforcement team/task force and individual Oregon-Idaho HIDTA & ONEA awards. The purpose of the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA & ONEA Awards Program is to recognize drug enforcement teams/task forces and individuals whose work has contributed to the goals and objectives of the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA Program and ONEA.

A complete list of the awards, the criteria, the nomination procedures and nomination forms have been posted in the 'Awards Program' section of the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA web site – www.oridhidta.org/awards-program - as well as the ONEA website in the 'ABOUT' section – www.onea.org/about/annual-awards . Award nominations are due by close of business on Friday, June 9, 2023, and are to be sent electronically to me at chris.gibson@dpsst.oregon.gov Awards will be presented during a ceremony at the ONEA Training Institute on July 11, 2023.

*Chris Gibson, Director
Oregon-Idaho HIDTA Program*

BLUE MOUNTAIN ENFORCEMENT NARCOTICS TEAM

◆ During the 1st quarter of 2023, the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team investigated fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin related cases. BENT opened 36 new drug cases, served 6 search warrants, arrested 26 people, seized over \$17,000 in cash, 40 firearms, over 13 pounds of methamphetamine, 66,824 dosage units of fentanyl, a small amount of heroin, over half pound of cocaine, and other prescription controlled substances.

◆ In early January, 2023, Union County Sheriff's Office responded to a residence outside of La Grande, OR regarding the report of a residential burglary. There were items stolen from every room in the home, to include the children's bedrooms, plus the victim's vehicle from a garage, several firearms and other valuables.

BENT assisted the Union County Sheriff's Office in the recovery of stolen vehicles and property. As in most large scale organized crime networks, BENT continued identifying more co-conspirators. BENT learned the identity of multiple suspects involved with burglaries and distribution of stolen property as well as distribution of controlled substances. Burglaries/aggregated thefts by this group had been committed throughout multiple counties in Oregon, Idaho and Washington. BENT had corroborative information about the mentioned suspects being involved with the drug culture of using, distributing, and exchanging stolen property for drugs/money.

At the conclusion of an extensive investigation, BENT executed 5 search warrants (3 residences and two vehicles), recovered 26 firearms, arrested 13 people, and recovered well over an estimated \$150,000.00 in stolen property. BENT seized over 50,000 purported fentanyl laced-pills, over 125 grams of purported fentanyl powder, over 5 pounds of methamphetamine, over 220 pounds of marijuana, over \$13,000 in cash, recovered a significant amount of stolen property ranging from stolen trailers, an off-road motorcycle, construction equipment including welders, generators and tools.

The conservative total street value of the combined narcotics seized, if sold in the area, would be approximately \$1 million dollars. This case involved theft/burglary cases from Richland, WA Police Department, Union County Sheriff's Office, La Grande Police Department, Grant County Sheriff's Office, Walla Walla, WA Police Department, Pendleton Police Department, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Hermiston Police Department, Umatilla Tribal Police Department, Twin Falls, ID Police Department and the Oregon State Police.



Pictured above: narcotics, firearms, currency seized as a result of search warrants

BENT continued

- ◆ On March 14, 2023, BENT concluded a two year long drug investigation with the arrest of a male suspect from Pilot Rock, Oregon.

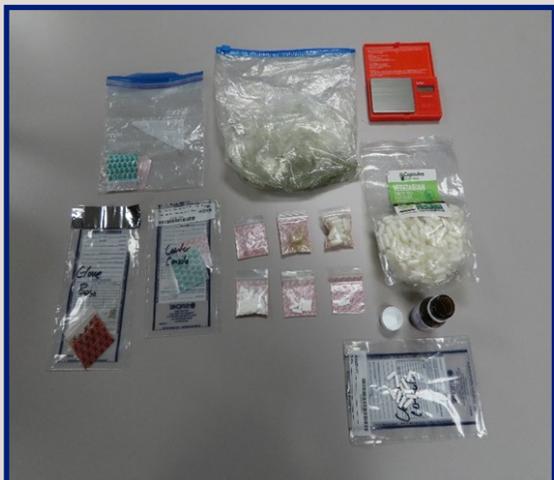
After conducting controlled purchases of narcotics from the male suspect, BENT applied for a residential search warrant and one was granted. At the execution of the residential search warrant BENT arrested a male and female suspect(s), seized 4.3 pounds of methamphetamine, over 3,000 dosage units of fentanyl pills, 3 handguns, and \$2,558.00 in cash.

Pictured right: narcotics, firearms, and cash seized from Pilot Rock, OR residence



- ◆ In March, 2023, BENT detectives conducted an investigation into narcotics trafficking occurring at one of the area high schools in Umatilla County, Oregon. During the course of the investigation, BENT discovered facts which led to the application for and eventual service of a search warrant upon a juvenile student's vehicle identified during the investigation. During the service of the search warrant, BENT seized items indicative of narcotics trafficking, to include quantities of cocaine, MDMA, LSD and Xanax pills all packaged for sale.

This case was investigated in coordination with the Pendleton Police Department and the Umatilla County District Attorney's Office. Due to the nature of the case involving a juvenile, the names, dates, locations, seizures and facts are not being disclosed to protect the identity of anyone remotely involved.



Pictured above: Seizure from high school investigation

CLACKAMAS COUNTY INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

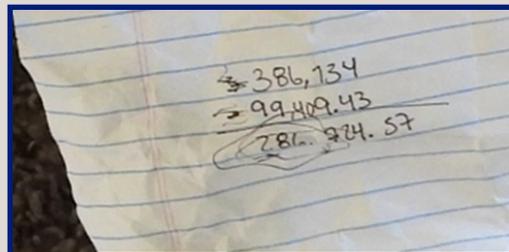
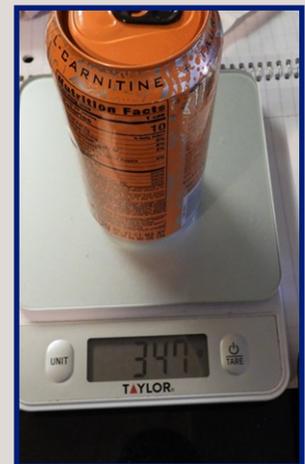
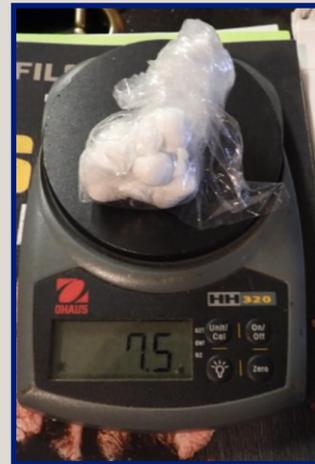
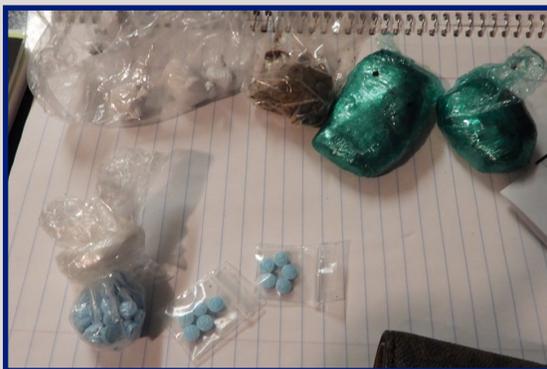
◆ In January 2023, following an approximate six month investigation into a local cocaine dealer (S1), Clackamas County Inter-Agency Task Force (CCITF) executed a search warrant on an apartment in Milwaukie, OR. Utilizing a Confidential Informant (CI), CCITF monitored multiple buys from this source of supply who freely confirmed that drug dealing was the sole source of income for S1. Upon execution of the search warrant, investigators seized over \$180,000 in cash, a 2018 Toyota Camry, multiple firearms, large capacity magazines, and over the course of the investigation, just under 1 kilogram of cocaine, and nearly 10 pounds of processed/bulk marijuana.



Pictured right: cash and large capacity magazine seizure

◆ In October 2022, CCITF began an investigation into two individuals, believed to be brother (S1) and sister (S2), following contact with an individual turned Confidential Informant (CI). With CCITF monitoring, the CI would buy counterfeit oxycodone M30 pills and fentanyl powder by placing the order through S1. S1 would typically deliver the drugs, but occasionally would send S2 to complete the transactions. As the investigation progressed, S1 and S2 utilized at least five different vehicles, as well as an apartment and a duplex in Gresham. S1 and S2 utilized their true names in the vehicle registrations and were tied to the Francisco Morazan Cartel in Honduras.

At the end of March 2023, following numerous CI buys, follows, and surveillance, investigators executed a search warrant on the apartment and duplex, as well as multiple vehicles, and with the assistance of HSI and FBI, seized cash, heroin, fentanyl pills and powder, drug ledgers, packaging materials, and drugs hidden inside a Monster energy drink can. The individuals remain in federal custody.



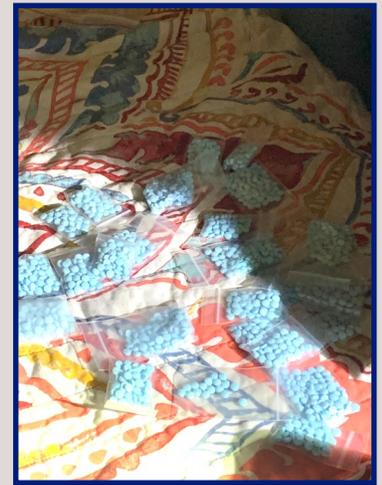
Pictured above and left: seized heroin, fentanyl pills and powder; packaging materials and ledger

CENTRAL OREGON DRUG ENFORCEMENT

- ◆ On February 22, 2023, the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team (CODE), in collaboration with the Crook County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police, concluded a long-term investigation and interstate surveillance operation with the arrest of Christie Armilda Dillman, age 41, of Redmond, Oregon.

Drug agents identified Christie Dillman as a fentanyl and methamphetamine trafficker in central Oregon. The initial investigation alleged Ms. Dillman had been importing large quantities of fentanyl pills and methamphetamine from the Portland area into central Oregon, where she distributed it in the Redmond and Prineville areas. After a surveillance operation throughout Oregon, CODE detectives, with the assistance of Crook County Sheriff Deputies and Oregon State Police Troopers, stopped Ms. Dillman driving a 2016 Ford Edge on N Grizzly Rd at NW Ryegrass Rd, in an unincorporated community of Crook County. At the traffic stop, a Crook County deputy attempted to detain Ms. Dillman. After a brief struggle, she was detained without further incident nor injury. CODE narcotics detection K9 "Bonnie" was deployed and alerted her handler to the presence of a controlled substance within the Ford. K9 "Bonnie" is only one of two K9s in central Oregon trained and certified in detecting fentanyl, in addition to other controlled substances.

Based on the investigation, CODE detectives applied for and obtained a search warrant for Dillman's blue Ford Edge. In addition to the search warrant, Ms. Dillman consented to a search. A subsequent search of Dillman's car located a substantial quantity of methamphetamine, counterfeit Oxycodone tablets made of fentanyl, and currency. At the same time, drug agents executed a search warrant at Dillman's home on the 3000 block of SW Canal Blvd in Redmond. While searching Dillman's home, drug agents located another substantial quantity of fentanyl tablets, packaging materials, drug paraphernalia, and two loaded firearms. Dillman's teenage daughter was also home at the time of the search. The daughter was released at the scene without charges and referred to DHS Child Welfare.



Pictured above: drugs and firearms seized from Dillman

DOUGLAS INTERAGENCY NARCOTICS TEAM

- ◆ During the first quarter of 2023, Douglas Interagency Narcotics Team (DINT) has seized over 1,500 grams of methamphetamine in 10 separate cases. DINT has also seized a little more than 1 kilo of cocaine, and over 2,000 lbs of psilocybin
- ◆ During January 2023, DINT conducted multiple investigations over a ten-day period involving individuals distributing fentanyl throughout the community.
 - On January 19, 2023, DINT investigated a case which resulted in the seizure of approximately 53.8 grams of fentanyl.
 - On January 20, 2023, DINT conducted two investigations which resulted in the seizure of approximately 5 grams of fentanyl and a separate seizure of 40 grams of fentanyl.
 - On January 21, 2023, DINT investigated a case which resulted in the seizure of approximately 40 grams of fentanyl.
 - On January 25, 2023, DINT investigated a case which resulted in the seizure of approximately 57.9 grams of fentanyl.
 - On January 29, 2023, DINT investigated a case which resulted in the seizure of approximately 92 grams of fentanyl.

In total over the ten day period DINT seized approximately 288.7 grams (10.18 ounces) of fentanyl. These investigations are ongoing.

HIDTA INTERDICTION TASKFORCE

- During the 1st quarter of 2023, members of the HIDTA Interdiction Taskforce (HIT) ran a drug mission in two high crime areas in Portland, OR. Over the course of 4 days investigators identified the busiest dealers working in and around the high crime areas with the plan to arrest those individuals on drug charges.

This mission could not have been done without the cooperation and teamwork displayed by multiple units within PPB as well as the support from outside agencies. The participating units were: United States District Attorney’s Office, Homeland Security Investigations, Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office Dangerous Drugs Team, North Neighborhood Response Team (NRT), Central Neighborhood Response Team (NRT), Enhanced Community Safety Team (ECST), Focused Intervention Team (FIT), Air Support Unit , and HIT.

Pictured right: pills and handgun seized during drug mission



- Members of HIT conducted follow up on an overdose death involving fentanyl that occurred on February 4, 2023. HIT identified Juan Romero DOB 12/20/2002 as the level 1 supplier to the deceased.

HIT conducted surveillance and identified multiple apartments and storage facilities associated to Romero throughout the Portland metropolitan area.

On March 3, 2023, HIT arrested Romero on Powell Butte as he was supplying his associate, Luis Cruz.



At the associated locations, officers found a kilo press, \$8,120 cash, 623 grams of methamphetamine, 899 grams of heroin, 25,096 blue M30’s and 1,802 grams of powder fentanyl. Romero admitted to selling fentanyl to the deceased and cooperated with the investigation. The Assistant United States Attorney’s (AUSA’s) office is prosecuting the case.

Pictured below: narcotics and kilo press seized from Romero



IDAHO STATE POLICE - DOMESTIC HIGHWAY ENFORCEMENT

- ◆ On March 14 -15, 2023 the Idaho State Police Domestic Highway Enforcement (ISP DHE) team in conjunction with Ada County, Elmore County, Canyon County and Probation and Parole conducted a HIDTA operation focusing on I-84 in Ada, Canyon, and Elmore Counties.

The operation resulted in a total of 184 contacts, 42 misdemeanor drug charges, 10 felony drug charges, 26 K9 deployments, 1 felon in possession of a firearm, 1 DUI-drug. The total amount of drugs seized were 1.1 pounds of methamphetamine, 17.6 pounds of marijuana, 37 dose units of fentanyl, \$1,929 cash and 1 firearm.

- ◆ On January 22, 2023, an ISP Trooper conducted a traffic stop in Owyhee County on a gray Chevrolet Silverado with Idaho plates for registration violation. During the stop, the trooper observed signs of drug trafficking. A K9 was deployed and indicated positively on the vehicle.

A search of the vehicle resulted in a large amount of marijuana, THC vape cartridges, and cash under the body of the truck and in the fenders. In total, the trooper located 21.2 pounds of marijuana, 101 THC vape cartridges, and \$5,755.42 in cash and coins.

Pictured: seizure from Chevrolet Silverado



- ◆ On March 6, 2023, an ISP Trooper conducted a traffic stop in Shoshone County on a white Dodge Ram 1500 with Montana plates for failing to maintain lane and suspicion of DUI.

During the stop, the trooper observed signs of recent drug use. A K9 was requested and performed an open-air sniff and received a positive alert. While conducting a search of the vehicle, the trooper located a safe with 427.4 grams (.9 pounds) of methamphetamine, 5,858 dose units of rainbow fentanyl pills, and a pistol.

Pictured: safe containing methamphetamine, pills and firearm



- ◆ On March 14, 2023, an ISP Trooper conducted a traffic stop in Canyon County on a gray BMW M5 with Idaho plates for failing to have taillights activated during inclement weather.

During the stop, the trooper smelled marijuana along with the driver admitting to having a dab pen in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in multiple packages of marijuana located in a duffle bag.

While conducting a search of the vehicle, the trooper located 14.4 pounds of marijuana, 437.9 grams (.9 pounds) of methamphetamine pills, and a revolver.

Pictured: seized marijuana, methamphetamine, and firearm



- ◆ On March 20, 2023, an ISP Trooper conducted a traffic stop in Shoshone County on a gold Ford Taurus with Montana plates for speeding, following too close, and suspicion of DUI.

During the stop, the trooper observed signs of recent drug use. An occupant in the vehicle admitted to paraphernalia on her person. While conducting a search of the vehicle, the trooper located 2,069 dose units of fentanyl pills, 10.9 grams of methamphetamine, and \$1,029 cash.

Pictured: fentanyl pills and methamphetamine

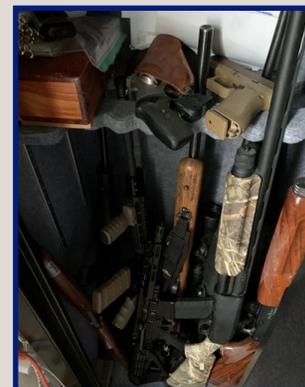


MEDFORD AREA DRUG AND GANG ENFORCEMENT

1st Quarter Update ~

- ◆ The Medford Area Drug and Gang Enforcement team (MADGE) opened an investigation into a large scale drug trafficking organization (DTO) that was trafficking cocaine in Jackson County. After a year-long investigation, MADGE began a wiretap investigation. MADGE was assisted by members of Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Homeland Security Investigations, Oregon State Police, and the Medford Police Department.

At the conclusion of the wiretap investigation, MADGE arrested numerous subjects and seized large quantities of cocaine, fentanyl, marijuana, methamphetamine, along with firearms and currency.



Currency and firearms seizure from DTO

- ◆ MADGE opened an investigation into a DTO out of California that was transporting large quantities of methamphetamine and fentanyl to Jackson County. At the end of February 2023, MADGE made contact with a male and female who had just arrived in Medford during the night. MADGE seized 10 pounds of methamphetamine and 87.40 grams of fentanyl.

Both subjects were lodged.

Pictured right: 10 pound methamphetamine seizure



- ◆ In March 2023, MADGE intercepted a sale of 10 pounds of methamphetamine in a grocery store parking lot after a lengthy investigation into a subject selling methamphetamine in Jackson County. MADGE seized 10 pounds of methamphetamine, one firearm, and \$1,470.



Two subjects were lodged on possession and distribution of methamphetamine – commercial offense.

Pictured left: 10 pound methamphetamine seizure

- ◆ MADGE opened an investigation into a subject who was selling fentanyl in the Medford area. Contact was made during the night when the subject returned from the San Francisco Bay Area with a large quantity of fentanyl he planned to sell in Medford. MADGE detectives seized .60 pounds of fentanyl and .17 pounds of methamphetamine. The subject admitted to selling fentanyl in Jackson County.

Charges are pending at the Jackson County District Attorney's Office.



Fentanyl seizure

- ◆ MADGE served a search warrant in Medford after investigating a subject for selling large quantities of heroin in Jackson County. The subject admitted to selling heroin. MADGE seized 3.77 pounds of heroin and 9 grams of methamphetamine.

Charges are pending at the Jackson County District Attorney's Office.



Heroin seizure

MADGE / IMET continued on next page...

*MADGE / IMET continued***Illegal Marijuana Enforcement Team - IMET**

- ◆ IMET responded to a fully engulfed fire at a warehouse where Butane Honey Oil was being manufactured. There was no licensing at this location for growing, handling, or processing marijuana. A search warrant was granted for the property and IMET seized over 1,000 pounds of processed marijuana and the remnants of the butane honey oil laboratory. Two subjects were charged with arson incident to manufacture of cannabinoid extract 1st degree, unlawful possession of marijuana, and unlawful manufacture of marijuana.

There were no serious injuries to anyone on scene.



Butane Honey Oil warehouse fire

- ◆ IMET opened an investigation into a property in Eagle Point, OR. The property which consisted of over 200 acres did not have any active marijuana licensing. IMET seized and destroyed more than 30,000 pounds of processed marijuana and 120 pounds of marijuana dabs.

Charges are pending at the Jackson County District Attorney's Office.

- ◆ In March 2023, IMET served a search warrant in Gold Hill, OR that resulted in the seizure of nearly 1,000 marijuana plants, almost 2 pounds of cocaine, 94 pounds of processed marijuana, 10 firearms, and \$12,300.

One subject was lodged on possession and manufacturing of marijuana and possession of a prohibited firearm. Charges are pending for another subject.



Gold Hill search warrant seizure



Processed marijuana from Eagle Point property

ROGUE AREA DRUG ENFORCEMENT***1st Quarter Update ~***

- ◆ During the 1st quarter, Rogue Area Drug Enforcement (RADE) has been actively working two Len Bias cases. The Len Bias law is named after an NBA player who died from cardiac arrhythmia induced by a cocaine overdose during a basketball game. The federal law allows judges to sentence a person to life in prison if he gets convicted of distributing drugs that result in the death of someone who uses the drugs.
- ◆ Oregon State Police is coming back to RADE and will have two full time detectives - one starting May 1, 2023. RADE will be fully staffed by June 1.

MULTNOMAH CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE DANGEROUS DRUG TEAM

- ◆ On February 2, 2023, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Dangerous Drug Team (MCSO DDT), US Marshals and Portland Police Bureau HIDTA Interdiction Team (HIT) conducted a search warrant on 3 locations, 1 vehicle and 2 suspects in Portland, Multnomah County, OR.

The search warrant yielded 3 firearms (2 stolen), \$15,927.00 bulk cash, approximately 22,500 fentanyl pills, 248g of heroin, 205g of fentanyl powder and 65g of meth. Four individuals were arrested and federally charged for appropriate federal firearm and drug crimes.

This case is an ongoing Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) investigation into a group of Honduran Nationals operating in the greater Portland area.

Pictured right: firearms, cash, fentanyl pills, heroin, fentanyl powder, methamphetamine seizure



- ◆ After a months' long investigation, MCSO DDT executed a search warrant on March 2, 2023 for a residence, 2 vehicles and an individual located in the Portland Metro area. In total, six firearms were located throughout the home, two of which were reported stolen. Approximately 45,000 fentanyl pills, 122.9 grams of cocaine as well as \$10,015 in cash. The individual has been federally indicted.

Pictured below: firearms, fentanyl, cocaine and cash seizure



- ◆ After numerous controlled buys and hours of surveillance, MCSO DDT executed a search warrant on March 25, 2023 which included a residence, 3 vehicles and an individual. The search yielded 14,130 fentanyl pills, 2016.3 grams fentanyl powder, 433.6 grams methamphetamine, three firearms and \$25,570 in bulk cash.

Also inside the residence detectives located several cans of acetone, Bullet grinders, jars of Mannitol and an electric press. It appear that the subjects were using Mannitol to cut the fentanyl powder and then using the acetone and the press to reshape it back into the brick-like state.

Three individuals are currently being held in federal custody.

Pictured right: fentanyl pills, fentanyl powder, methamphetamine, three firearms, and \$25,570 cash seizure



OREGON STATE POLICE DOMESTIC HIGHWAY ENFORCEMENT

- ◆ On January 10, 2023, an Oregon State Police (OSP) Sergeant stopped a 2009 Chevrolet Cobalt for traffic violations on I-5, near milepost 31 northbound. During the traffic stop, the sergeant observed signs of criminal activity and consent to search was requested. During the search, the Sergeant located two kilograms of suspected cocaine concealed in manufactured compartments on both sides of the vehicle's rear quarter panel.

The driver was identified as Maradiaga Rolando (39 years old) and the passenger was identified as Denilson Elvir Zavala (24 years old), both from Oakland, California. Both subjects were taken into custody and lodged at the Jackson County Jail.



Cocaine seizure from Chevrolet Cobalt

- ◆ On January 16, 2023, an OSP Trooper stopped a 2008 Toyota RAV 4 for a traffic violation on I-5, near milepost 243. During the traffic stop, the trooper noted signs of criminal activity and a consent search of the vehicle was conducted. During the search the trooper located a shopping bag behind the driver's seat that contained four packages of blue pills, likely containing fentanyl, and one package of suspected heroin. The pills weighed 4,672 grams and the suspected heroin weighed approximately 2,449 grams.

The driver was identified as Nancy Garcia (age 45) from Yuma, Arizona. She was lodged in the Marion County Jail.

- ◆ On January 18, 2023, an OSP Senior Trooper stopped a 2015 Nissan Rogue SUV for a lane usage violation on northbound US 97 near milepost 276, near Klamath Falls. During the traffic stop, the Senior Trooper noticed signs of criminal activity and a search of the vehicle was conducted.

During the search of the vehicle, the trooper located approximately 10 pounds of suspected methamphetamine, approximately three (3) pounds of suspected heroin, and approximately 1.4 pounds of suspected counterfeit pills containing fentanyl that were concealed within the vehicle.

The driver was identified as Sergio Luis Salazar-Mercado (30 years old) Wapato, Washington. Salazar-Mercado was taken into custody and lodged in the Klamath County Jail.



Seizure from Toyota traffic stop



Seizure from Nissan Rogue

- ◆ On January 19, 2023, an OSP Senior Trooper stopped a 2006 Lexus SUV for Failure of Slow Driver to Drive on Right on northbound US 97 near milepost 132, just north of Bend. During the traffic stop, the trooper noticed signs of criminal activity and a consent search of the vehicle was conducted.

During a search of the vehicle, the trooper located approximately 10 pounds of suspected methamphetamine and approximately five pounds of suspected powder fentanyl concealed within the vehicle. The K9 assisted in the investigation by alerting to the odor of controlled substances in the location where the drugs were hidden.

The driver was identified as Dania Marbella Banegas-Ramos (28 years old) Oakland, California. Banegas-Ramos was taken into custody and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail.

OSP continued...



**K9 assisted seizure from Lexus
(narrative on page 11)**

◆ On February 1, 2023, an OSP Trooper stopped a 2005 Toyota Camry passenger car for Unlawful Window Tint on SE Reedway Street in the Portland area. During the traffic stop, the trooper noticed signs of criminal activity and a consent search of the vehicle was conducted.

During the search of the vehicle, the trooper located approximately 292 grams of pills suspected of containing fentanyl, approximately 124 grams of suspected fentanyl powder, and multiple weapons concealed within the vehicle.

The driver identified himself as Jorge Giron Lopez (30 years old) and the passenger identified himself as Renan Lopez Calix (24 years old), both from the Portland, Oregon area. Both subjects were taken into custody and lodged in the Multnomah County Jail.

◆ On February 1, 2023, an OSP Sergeant stopped a 2022 Honda HR-V for Failure to Drive within its Lane and Impeding Traffic on Highway 140, near milepost 86, in the Lakeview area. During the traffic stop, the sergeant noticed signs of criminal activity and a consent search of the vehicle was conducted.

During the search of the vehicle, the sergeant located approximately 122 pounds of marijuana and approximately 3 pounds of psilocybin mushrooms in the vehicle. It was later determined the occupants of the vehicle were attempting to export the drug items out of the State of Oregon to Texas.

The driver was identified as James Odom (43 years old) from Bacliff, Texas and the passenger was identified as Artemio Ibarra (37 years old) from Alvin Texas. Both subjects were cited and released pending a review of the case by the Lake County District Attorney's Office.



**Fentanyl and weapons seized from
Toyota Camry**

◆ On February 7th, 2023, an OSP Trooper located a 2013 Hyundai SUV in the Santiam Rest Area off of I-5, near milepost 240. The trooper made observations of the vehicle that led him to believe the occupant(s) were involved in criminal activity, which prompted contact with the driver.

A conversation with the driver furthered the trooper's reasonable suspicion to believe criminal activity was occurring and a search of the vehicle was conducted. The trooper located approximately 1.4 kilograms of fentanyl powder concealed in the vehicle during the search.

The driver was identified as Arlin Barahon-Erao (18 years old) from Oakland, California. Barahon-Erao was taken into custody and lodged in the Marion County Jail.



**Pictured above: marijuana and
psilocybin seizure in Lakeview**

**Pictured right: fentanyl seizure
from Hyundai**



OSP continued on next page...

OSP continued from previous page...

- ◆ On March 21, 2023, an OSP Senior Trooper stopped a 2015 Nissan Altima for a vehicle equipment issue as well as for Failure of a Slower Moving Vehicle to Yield to Overtaking Vehicle, on northbound US 97 near milepost 161, in Deschutes County. During the traffic stop, the trooper noticed signs of criminal activity.

An OSP narcotics detection canine was applied to the vehicle and alerted to the presence of narcotic odor coming from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle was conducted, and the trooper located approximately 36 pounds of suspected methamphetamine, and approximately two (2) pounds of suspected heroin, which were concealed within the vehicle.

The driver was identified as Anabel Torres (38 years old), of Sunnyside, Washington and the passenger was identified as Audel Torres Perez, (38 years old), also of Sunnyside, Washington. Both were interviewed and released pending referred charges.

Pictured right: K9 with seizure from Nissan



OREGON-IDAHO HIDTA TRAINING INITIATIVE

2023 1st Quarter Training Update -

The Oregon-Idaho Training Initiative's goal is to host at least one training per quarter in our region for HIDTA members in addition to providing funding assistance to attend additional narcotic related trainings.

During the 1st quarter of 2023, the Training Initiative provided funding for the following trainings:

- *PMP training*
- *Fentanyl Safety & Awareness*
- *Excel for public Safety*
- *Analytical Tradecraft*
- *Detecting Deception and Lies*
- *Mission Planning*
- *Snapchat Investigations*
- *Law Enforcement on the Stand*

Upcoming Oregon-Idaho HIDTA sponsored trainings include:

- *Washington State Narcotics Investigators Association (WSNIA) Training Summit & Vendor Show, Coeur d'Alene, ID ~ April 23-27, 2023*
- *Tri-State Commanders/Supervisors Summit, Pendleton, OR ~ May 22-24, 2023*
- *Operational Red Flag, Salem, OR ~ June 15, 2023*
- *Idaho Narcotics Officer Association Annual Conference, Boise, ID ~ June 5-7, 2023*
- *Oregon Narcotics Officers Association Annual Training Institute, Redmond, OR July 11-13, 2023*
- *Basic Narcotics Class (40 hours) in August 2023 - date TBD*

Details and registration information for future training events can be found on the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA website: <http://oridhidta.org/training-events>

Training attendance request forms and reimbursement request forms can be found on the website <http://oridhidta.org> under the training tab.

For out of town/state training, for multiple people, or any training where you are asking HIDTA for reimbursement, please use the "**Multiple Attendee or Out of State**" request form.

Please contact Oregon-Idaho HIDTA Program Coordinator Ned Walls with any questions or suggestions.

Email: ned.walls@dpsst.oregon.gov

Telephone: 503.569-1631

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE FUGITIVE TASK FORCE

- ◆ On December 12, 2022, Edward Anthony Reyes was involved in an altercation at a bar in a neighborhood in east Portland. Reyes ended up leaving the altercation to go retrieve a firearm from his vehicle. Reyes returned inside the bar and shot a male leaving him wounded.

On March 15, 2023, members of the US Marshals Pacific Northwest Violent Offender Task Force (PNVOTF) located and arrested Reyes without incident at his sister's residence in Clackamas County. At the time of arrest Reyes was in possession of a shotgun that he had concealed in a tennis racquet bag.

Pictured right: photo from bar of Reyes pointing his firearm



- ◆ In July of 2022 Isai Ramos-Damian got into an argument with a Sureno gang member and pulled a firearm and shot at the victim. The intended victim was shot but Isai's gunfire also struck a female who was unrelated to the argument. The female subsequently died at the scene and the intended victim was taken to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

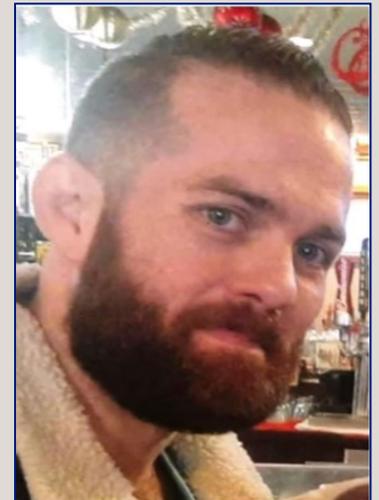
Isai was identified as the shooting suspect and in February of 2023 a warrant was issued for his arrest. On February 27, 2023, members of the PNVOTF arrested Isai without incident in Gresham, Oregon.



Isai Ramos-Damian

- ◆ On January 26, 2023 Grants Pass Public Safety (GPPS) requested the assistance of the PNVOTF, Medford division in the location and apprehension of Benjamin Obadiah Foster. Foster was wanted by GPPS for the crimes of rape, kidnapping and assault. Specifically, Foster kidnapped an ex-girlfriend, bound, raped, and brutally beat her ultimately leaving her for dead. This was an intensive manhunt that garnered nationwide attention and was conducted by GPPS, Oregon State Police (OSP), Josephine County and the U.S. Marshals Service.

During this intensive fugitive investigation members of the PNVOTF, GPPS and OSP discovered that Foster had brutally murdered two male neighbors that also resided on a rural property.



Benjamin Obadiah Foster

If your HIDTA Task Force Initiative needs assistance with apprehending a particular fugitive, please contact the U.S. Marshals Pacific Northwest Violent Offender Task Force.

Jonathan Lobell /
jonathan.lobell@usdoj.gov

Cell: 969-5543

Joint fugitive investigations conducted ultimately led law enforcement to a residence in Grants Pass, OR. It should be noted that this residence was the residence of the initial rape. Law enforcement confirmed Foster to be at the residence. Containment was established and GPPS as well as Jackson County SWAT was called in for assistance. After an hours long standoff Foster ultimately took his own life.

This case is mentioned to memorialize the working relationship the PNVOTF has with all local agencies.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY - IDAHO

- ◆ On February 14, 2023, U.S. Attorney Josh Hurwit (United States Attorney's Office District of Idaho) announced Jacob James Martinez, 33, of Idaho Falls, was sentenced to 188 months federal prison for attempted possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine.

According to court records, on September 29, 2020, Idaho State Police made a traffic stop of an individual found to be in possession of five pounds of methamphetamine. That individual informed law enforcement that he was going to deliver the methamphetamine to three individuals in southeast Idaho, naming Martinez as the intended recipient of two pounds. The individual had a drug ledger that showed Martinez owing \$5,950 in past drug debts.

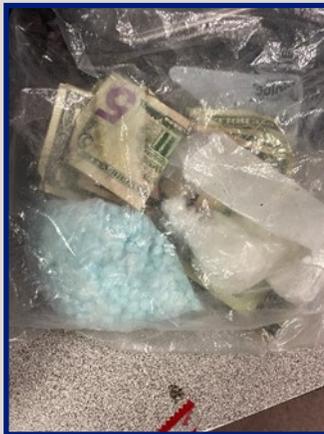
Idaho State Police identified Martinez and stopped him at the location he was set to receive the two pounds of methamphetamine. Martinez was arrested on an outstanding arrest warrant. Law enforcement searched Martinez's vehicle and found him to be in possession of \$6,280 in United States currency, a loaded Ruger 9mm handgun, a drug pipe, and baggies containing methamphetamine and marijuana. Martinez was prohibited from possessing a firearm at the time of his arrest.

U.S. Attorney Hurwit commended the Idaho State Police, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the BADGES/HIDTA Taskforce for their collaborative work on the case.

WESTSIDE INTERAGENCY NARCOTICS

- ◆ In January 2023, Westside Interagency Narcotics (WIN) team members assisted Beaverton PD Patrol with a drug and cash seizure. The seizure included 27 grams of methamphetamine, 13 grams of heroin, 32 grams of fentanyl powder, 126 grams of fentanyl pills, and about \$4,900 in cash. Subsequent arrest of suspect occurred in April of 2023.

Pictured below: Fentanyl, methamphetamine, heroin and cash seizure



- ◆ Also in January 2023, WIN assisted Beaverton PD Patrol with another drug seizure. The seizure included 27 grams of fentanyl pills, 4 grams fentanyl powder, 3 grams of heroin, and 3 grams of methamphetamine.

Pictured left: Fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine seizure

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- ◆ In February 2023, WIN assisted UPS with the seizure of 38 pounds of marijuana and 837 grams of marijuana edibles destined for Georgia.



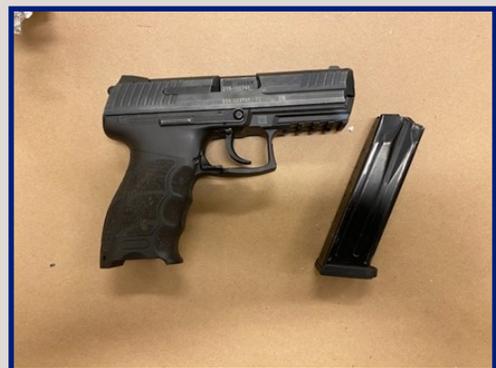
Pictured above: UPS seizure of marijuana and edibles

- ◆ In February 2023, WIN & Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) dismantled a Honduran drug trafficking organization (DTO) to include sub distributors.

Seized was 9,792 grams of fentanyl pills, 928 grams of fentanyl powder, 62 grams of methamphetamine, 3 grams of heroin, approximately \$24k cash, ammunition, body armor, three assault rifle lowers, and two handguns.



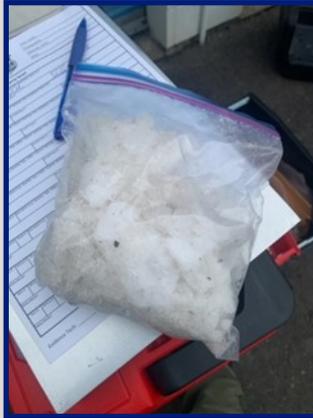
Pictured: Seizure from Honduran DTO



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- ◆ In March 2023, WIN assisted the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF) with locating a known drug dealer. Seized were 21 grams of fentanyl pills, 1 pound of methamphetamine, and over \$29k.



Pictured left: fentanyl pills, methamphetamine, and cash seizure

- ◆ In March 2023, WIN responded to a 2-year-old child who ingested parents' fentanyl and had overdosed.

Investigation led to a Honduran drug trafficker. 236 grams of fentanyl powder, 200 grams of fentanyl pills, 103 grams of methamphetamine, over \$1,400 cash, and one handgun seized.

Pictured right: fentanyl pills, methamphetamine, and handgun seizure



ANALYTICAL SUPPORT

Oregon-Idaho HIDTA Information Sharing and Analytical Coordination Center (ISACC)

Manager Cam Strahm
503.310.4411
cam.strahm@dpsst.oregon.gov

Oregon DOJ Analytical & Criminal Investigative Services Section (ACISS) :

OREGON-IDAHO HIDTA LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE ACTIVITY

(YTD = End of 1st Quarter)

	2022	Qtr	2023 YTD
DTO-MLOs Dismantled/Disrupted <i>(Projected - 72)</i>	80	11	11
Cases Opened <i>(Average - 3,313)</i>	3,488	886	886
Cases Designated RPOT/CPOT	0	0	0
Cases Qualified as OCDETF	11	1	1
Cases Designated PTO	9	0	0
Arrests	2,697	715	715
Kg of Drugs Seized			
Cocaine	162.6	24.1	24.1
Fentanyl	59	28.1	28.1
Heroin	67.1	15.6	15.6
Marijuana	422,519	33,130	33,130
Methamphetamine/Ice	783.2	140.1	140.1
DU of Drugs Seized			
Fentanyl	3,020,802	827,474	827,474
Other Illicit Drugs	363,086	4,335	4,335
Assets Seized - Cash	\$10,216,341	\$2,302,408	\$2,302,438
Value of Non-Cash Assets Seized	\$18,985,748	\$355,868	\$355,868
Firearms Seized	851	322	322
Wire Taps	46	18	18
Vaping Cartridges Seized	13,134	1,019	1,019

Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program

Chris Gibson - Director

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