



Joint News Release

MULTI-AGENCY DRUG TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATION

STATEMENT FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT

Today, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Criminal Enforcement Team (CET) and the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office Joint Community Action Team (JCAT), along with several other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, announced the culmination of a long-term narcotics investigation targeting a major Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO). This DTO was responsible for distributing narcotics throughout the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, as well as Baltimore, MD, and the lower region of Delaware. This operation led to the seizure of significant quantities of illegal drugs, weapons, and monies associated with the organization. This investigation highlights the commitment of our agencies to protect the community, disrupt violent criminal networks, and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

INVESTIGATION SUMMARY

This investigation began in late 2024, as investigators received information on Desmond Roberts Jr. being involved in CDS transactions in Worcester County, MD. Throughout the earlier months of 2025, investigators utilized numerous means of investigation to determine that Roberts Jr. was involved in a larger scale drug trafficking organization.

Over the course of the operation, investigators utilized surveillance, undercover operations, search warrants, and other coordinated enforcement actions to identify key members and dismantle trafficking routes. This led to the authorization of a Title III Wiretap investigation involving a total of nineteen (19) telephonic lines being intercepted over the course of several months. Throughout this Wiretap, investigators were able to identify and disrupt individuals who were responsible for supplying our communities with illegal drugs.

ARRESTS AND SEIZURES SUMMARY

The following totals represent an approximate amount at the time of release:

- Total Arrests: 13 (additional arrests pending through indictments)
- Seized Narcotics:
 - o 42.61 kilograms of cocaine
 - o 23.8 grams of crack cocaine
 - o 4.41 kilograms of marijuana
 - o 3.6 grams of MDMA (ecstasy)
 - o 36 fentanyl pills
 - o 8.1 grams of psilocybin mushrooms
 - o 1.9 grams of heroin
 - o 5 suboxone strips

- Firearms Recovered: 11
- U.S. Currency Seized: \$23,816.00
- Vehicles/Houses Seized: 11 vehicles and 2 residences
- Search and Seizure Warrants: 80 plus

AGENCIES INVOLVED

Worcester County Sheriff's Office Criminal Enforcement Team (CET), Maryland State Police (MSP), Wicomico County Sheriff's Office Joint Community Action Team (JCAT), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Washington-Baltimore HIDTA, Accomack County Sheriff's Office Criminal Impact Unit (ACSOCIU), Salisbury City Police Department (SPD), Delaware State Police Sussex Drug Unit (DSP SDU), Ocean City Police Department Special Enforcement Unit (OCPD SEU), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Eastern Shore Information Center (ESIC), and Baltimore County Police Department (BPD).

APPREHENDED/CHARGED



Shakoor Yusin Stevenson

CDS: Drug Kingpin, Not Cannabis
 CDS: Import into the State of Maryland
 CDS: Possess Large Amount, not Cannabis
 CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics
 Bond: Held without bond



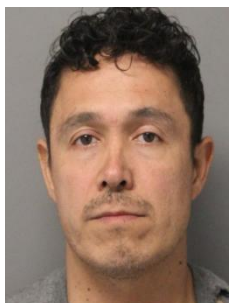
Ricky Ernest Johnson Jr.

CDS: Drug Kingpin, Not Cannabis
 CDS: Possess Large Amount, Not Cannabis
 CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics
 Bond: Held without bond



Reinaldo Soto Ramos

Felony Drug Dealing
 Drug Possession
 Bond: Held without bond
 ICE DETAINER



Junior Calderon

Felony Drug Dealing
 Drug Possession
 Bond: Released on bond



Charnita Emil Stephens

CDS: Possession of Large Amount, Not Cannabis

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics

Bond: Released on Recognizance & Electronic Monitoring



Dorge Lee Conway Jr.

Possession of a Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics

CDS: Possession of Firearms

Bond: Released on \$25,000.00 unsecured bond



Desmond Rashad Roberts Jr.

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics

Conspiracy to Distribute CDS/Distribute Narcotics

CDS: Possess-Not Cannabis

Bond: Released on \$10,000.00 unsecured bond



Marcus Shaquille Cropper

Possession of a Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics

Conspiracy to Distribute Narcotics

Bond: Held without Bond



Dewayne Ellsworth Cane

Conspiracy to Distribute Narcotics (4 counts)

Bond: Held without bond



Tirrell Termaine Sample

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics

CDS: Possess Not-Cannabis

Bond: Held without bond in Virginia



Kavon Randy Conquest

CDS: Possess Large amount, Not Cannabis
CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics
Bond: Held without bond



Deangela Renee Morton

Possession with Intent to Distribute a Schedule I or II drug
Possession of a Firearm While in Possession of a Schedule I or II drug
Bond: Released on bond in Virginia

WANTED



La'Quan Alexander Townsend

Additional charges may exist that were not reflected in this release

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

- Q: How long has this investigation been ongoing?
A: The investigation lasted approximately 14-15 months.
- Q: Are additional arrests expected?
A: Yes, further arrests or charges may be forthcoming.
- Q: Is the community at risk?
A: At this time, the primary targets of this investigation have been charged/arrested. Law enforcement will continue to monitor for residual activity.
- Q: Will additional information be released?
A: Yes. As certain documents become unsealed, more information may be provided.

STATEMENTS

Sheriff Matt Crisafulli:

“This investigation, which began right here in Worcester County and expanded across the state and throughout the region, demonstrates our unwavering commitment to protecting our communities and holding those who traffic illegal drugs accountable,” said Sheriff Matt Crisafulli. “This operation resulted in one of the largest drug seizures our office has ever been a part of, and that success is a direct reflection of the relentless dedication of our Criminal Enforcement Team and our law enforcement partners. I am extremely proud of the tireless work that went into this case. Together, we are sending a clear and unmistakable message—this type of criminal activity will not be tolerated in our communities.”

Sheriff Mike Lewis:

“Today, we are announcing the largest cocaine seizure ever made on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. This is a direct result of the hard-working men and women of law enforcement who work day and night in service to our communities. In partnership with our allied local agencies throughout the region, to include the Maryland State Police, the DEA and HSI, and with financial support through the Governor’s office of Crime Control and Prevention, we have achieved the largest cocaine seizure in Wicomico County history. This operation alone has removed millions of dollars’ worth of poison from our streets and dealt a significant blow to the criminal organizations bringing it into our communities. We will continue to work relentlessly with our federal and state partners to keep our communities safe. There are no jurisdictional boundaries when it comes to investigating organized crime.”

Chief Raymond J. Austin:

“As members of the Worcester County Criminal Enforcement Task Force, the Ocean City Police Department’s Narcotics & Vice Unit worked alongside our local, state, and federal partners to dismantle a dangerous drug trafficking organization operating across multiple jurisdictions. This case is a powerful example of what can be accomplished when law enforcement agencies work together toward a common goal.

Drug activity does not stop at jurisdictional lines. It impacts not only those directly involved but also families, friends, and entire communities. By working collaboratively, we can more effectively identify, investigate, and remove these organizations from our region.

Let this serve as a clear message: The Town of Ocean City, as well as the entire Eastern Shore, is not a welcoming place for narcotics trafficking. We are committed to maintaining a safe, family-friendly community, and we will continue to stand united with our partners to protect it.”

Lieutenant Colonel Kenny L. Brown, Criminal Investigation Bureau Chief, Maryland State Police:

“Partnerships between the Maryland Department of State Police and all of our allied agencies are critical to the public safety services we provide throughout the state,” said Lt. Colonel Kenny L. Brown, Criminal Investigations Bureau Chief. “The cross-jurisdictional approach and criminal information sharing is undoubtedly making a positive impact on our communities.”

Special Agent in Charge, Christopher G. Goumenis, DEA Washington Division:

“We are working hard and united to stop the violence and destruction these drug traffickers are bringing into our neighborhoods,” mentioned Christopher C. Goumenis, Special Agent in Charge for DEA Washington Division. “The investigation highlighted today is a great example of our partnership, and a testament of our collective efforts to protect and save the American citizens. Rest assured, the DEA, alongside all our law enforcement partners, is fully committed to utilizing every tool and resource available to dismantle major drug traffickers and their networks. To all drug traffickers and criminals, hear us loud and clear: We are relentless in our pursuit of dismantling your operations, bringing you and your accomplices to justice, and restoring our neighborhoods to the people.”

Special Agent in Charge, Christopher R. Heck, Homeland Security Investigations:

“The successes in this case are a direct result of the outstanding partnerships HSI Maryland has with our state and local law enforcement colleagues on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Working side-by-side with the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office Criminal Enforcement Team, the Ocean City Police Department, Maryland State Police, the Wicomico County Sheriff’s Office, the Salisbury Police Department, and the Delaware State Police, Law Enforcement successfully dismantled a transnational drug trafficking organization moving multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine into our communities. By seizing more than 40 kilograms of cocaine, additional narcotics, multiple firearms, U.S. currency, vehicles, and multiple properties used to facilitate this illicit scheme, we significantly disrupted a major source of drug supply and violence impacting families and neighborhoods across the Eastern Shore of Maryland.”

Governor Wes Moore:

“As governor, I have no higher priority than the safety of our people, and I have neither patience nor tolerance for violent criminals,” said Gov. Moore. “Alongside our local and federal partners, we have delivered one of the largest drug busts in state history—securing a safer future for the Eastern Shore and our entire state. This is what happens when we prioritize results, and this is why our administration is backing this success with the largest law enforcement investment in the history of the State of Maryland. We will continue giving our law enforcement personnel the tools they need to deliver the safety and security our people deserve.”

Mary Beth Carozza, Maryland State Senator:

“The extraordinary work of our law enforcement during this intense months-long joint investigation has resulted in one of the largest-ever drug seizures in Shore history, and that is a major public safety win for both the Shore and entire State of Maryland,” said State Senator Mary Beth Carozza who represents Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset. “I join with so many of my Shore constituents and others across Maryland to recognize the risks taken by all involved and thank our law enforcement partners involved with this successful investigation.”

Wayne A. Hartman, Maryland State Delegate:

“This operation is a powerful example of what can be accomplished when our local, state, and federal partners work together with a shared mission. The Eastern Shore is built on strong communities and shared values, and we are committed to ensuring it remains a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. I commend the dedication of all law enforcement agencies involved for their tireless efforts in removing dangerous drugs and illegal firearms from our communities. Their efforts continue to strengthen public safety and protect communities across our region.”

Worcester County Commission President Ted Elder:

“Today we applaud the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office Criminal Enforcement Team and their partners,” Commission President Ted Elder said. “Through their coordinated, multi-agency investigation, officers removed dangerous drugs and weapons from the streets and arrested drug traffickers whose activities threaten the safety and well-being of Eastern Shore residents and visitors. The success of this investigation sends a clear message. If you come to Worcester County to sell drugs, we will lock you up.”

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND FUNDING

This operation was also supported in part by the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN). The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCP) supplies grant funding and strategic assistance to MCIN member sites. These resources enable the identification, disruption, and dismantling of criminal organizations through enhanced inter-agency collaboration and data sharing, contributing to a safer Maryland for all.

The Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Agency (W/B HIDTA) provided analytical support for this operation through their Intelligence Support Center for production of intelligence profiles, target, event and investigative deconfliction. By providing various analytical, investigative and financial services to member law enforcement agencies, a goal of W/B HIDTA’s is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling or disrupting drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations. Worcester County is a recognized initiative area of the W/B HIDTA.