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BROOME COUNTY SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT TASK FORCE PRESS RELEASE

Multiple Arrests for Felony Narcotics and Weapons Charges in Endicott and the Town of Chenango

The Broome County Special Investigations Unit Task Force, comprised of detectives and officers from the Broome County Sheriff's Office, Binghamton Police Department, Johnson City Department and Endicott Police Department announced two major cases overnight in the Village of Endicott and in the Town of Chenango, recovering tens of thousands of dollars in narcotics and illegal weapons.

On Wednesday, February 1st, 2023, BCSIUTF executed a search warrant at 127 Washington Ave. Apt 2 in the Village of Endicott, seizing the following evidence:

- 32.8 Grams of Fentanyl (estimated street value of \$3,200);
- .5 grams of black tar heroin;
- 6 ½ Suboxone strips;
- Various drug paraphernalia items to include, digital Scale, Ziplock bags, and mannite (an agent used to cut narcotic substances);
- Various pills and prescription medications, include 98 Methadone Pills;
- A loaded 9mm "Ghost Gun";
- A loaded 40 caliber handgun with Hi-Point upper Slide with a 3d printed lower receiver;
- Various other gun parts to include 3D printed parts, pistol slides and a 37mm launcher attachment;
- Explosive blasting caps; and
- \$2,137.00 in suspected drug proceeds.

Following an investigation, the following individuals were charged:

Chase M. Tiffany, age 31, of Binghamton

- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd degree, a Class C Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd degree (2 Counts), a Class D Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 4th degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Paul A. Reed, age 35, of Endicott

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree (3 counts), a Class B Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5th degree (2 counts), a Class D Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd degree, a Class C Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd degree, a Class D Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 4th degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd degree (3 counts), a Class A Misdemeanor

On Thursday morning, February 2, 2023, the Task Force conducted a drug interdiction stop on a vehicle on Interstate 81 northbound at exit 7, in the Town of Chenango. The Task Force was assisted by the Broome County Sheriff's Office patrol units, the U.S. Office of Homeland Security Investigations, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations. During the stop, a narcotic dog was utilized and alerted to the presence of narcotics emanating from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle lead to the discovery of the following evidence in the trunk:

- 1,109.2 grams of packaged Fentanyl. (39.12 Ounces) (2.45 lbs.) with a street value of approximately \$45,000
- Forged identity documents (passport)
- \$1,994.00 in suspected drug proceeds

The investigation led to the following charges:

Adolfo Del Rio De Jesus, age 47, of the Bronx, NYC

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, a Class A-I Felony

Franklin A. Valdez, age 28, of the Bronx, NYC

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, a Class A-I Felony

Carlos M. Valdez, age 38 of North Providence, RI, a previously deported felon originally from the Dominican Republic

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, a Class A-I Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the 2nd Degree, a Class D Felony

- Criminal Impersonation in the 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

All arrested individuals were transported to the Central Arraignment Part Court at the Broome County Correctional Facility to await arraignment.

“These two cases are the result of the hard work and dedication put in by our local men and women of law enforcement every day paying off in a big way,” said Sheriff Fred Akshar. “Nearly \$50,000 of Fentanyl off the street means countless overdoses prevented and lives saved. If you do the math, our team recovered roughly 570,600 fatal doses of Fentanyl.”

According to the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, as little as 2 milligrams of Fentanyl can be fatal, depending on the size of the victim.

“I’m proud of the work our SIU Task Force puts in every day to make our communities safer, and today is another victory against the scourge of narcotics and illegal firearms,” said Johnson City Police Chief Brent Dodge

“It took teamwork to get these dangerous narcotics and weapons off the street and I commend the work of all our local law enforcement officers involved,” said Binghamton Police Chief Joseph Zikuski.

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