

DELTA TOWNSHIP DRUG NETWORK TRACED TO INDIANA

A lengthy investigation with TRI-COUNTY METRO, FBI and the Internal Revenue Service has resulted in the arrest of four men in Delta Township. The investigation began when TRI-COUNTY METRO officers seized 343 pounds of marijuana and \$75,000.00 in cash from a Lansing home. Investigators learned that a man residing in the Fort Wayne, Indiana area was involved in the transaction and was believed to be a major supplier of marijuana to the tri-county area. TRI-COUNTY METRO officers and FBI investigators began surveillance on a Lansing man receiving large shipments (over 100 pounds) of marijuana from the Fort Wayne suspect.

After authorities observed a drug transaction taking place in a Lansing area hotel parking lot, four men were arrested with 125 pounds of marijuana and \$25,000.00 in cash. An additional 900 pounds of marijuana was seized in Fort Wayne that authorities believed was also earmarked for Delta Township. The suspects were charged with drug conspiracies in federal court, have all pled guilty and are now serving time in federal prison.

COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH FLINT NARCOTICS TEAM ENDS MAJOR PIPELINE TO LANSING

TRI-COUNTY METRO officers, working in conjunction with drug teams from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office and the Flint Area Narcotics Group (FANG), arrested four men involved in a large-scale marijuana distribution ring. The investigation began when Genesee County's team made an undercover purchase of 25 pounds of marijuana in Flint from two Lansing men. Genesee County detectives followed the suspects back to Lansing and contacted TRI-COUNTY METRO.

A 24-hour surveillance began, as it was believed that the Lansing men had even larger quantities of marijuana. The following day TRI-COUNTY METRO, Genesee County and FANG officers observed the suspects loading items from the trunk of one vehicle into the trunk of another vehicle occupied by two men who had just arrived. The vehicle was registered to a subject from Saginaw, Michigan. That vehicle was stopped on I-69 near Perry as it was headed back toward Saginaw. Approximately 68 pounds of marijuana was seized from the trunk.

As a result of the arrests and searches of multiple homes and vehicles, approximately 190 pounds of marijuana and nearly \$200,000.00 cash was seized. Five men were arrested. TRI-COUNTY METRO officers have identified additional suspects from Texas and Indiana and federal indictments have been issued for their arrests. During the course of the investigation, detectives learned that the traffickers were responsible for bringing approximately 1000 pounds of marijuana into the Lansing area each month.

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

D/F/Lt. Tim Gill Michigan State Police



We are all well aware that there is a direct correlation between drugs and crime in our community. We also know that criminals do more than destroy lives, they also steal the sense of safety, well being and freedom in our community.

Armed with this knowledge, community leaders and law enforcement agencies in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties partnered with the Michigan State Police to establish the Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad (TRI-COUNTY METRO). TRI-COUNTY METRO is a multijurisdictional team with one common goal in mind, "removing drugs and drug dealers from our community's streets and neighborhoods, so you can live your life with a sense of peace and tranquility."

The concept of TRI-COUNTY METRO is based on the simple premise that no one agency has the ability or resources to respond single handedly to the drug problems in our area. Therefore, we combined our talent and resources into a strong specialized drug enforcement team, aimed specifically at removing drug criminals from our streets.

**TRI-COUNTY METRO's Goal:
Removing drugs and drug dealers from streets and neighborhoods, and restoring a sense of peace and tranquility in our community."**

As Commander of TRI-COUNTY METRO, I am convinced that by combining the talent, resources and technology of our local agencies with those of state and federal agencies, we are more successful in our drug fighting efforts. As you can see by the 2003 statistics, we made 395 arrests and took 181 criminals off our streets. In addition, we stopped the dissemination of more than three million dollars worth of drugs directed toward the children, family and friends in our communities.

As a citizen of Clinton, Eaton or Ingham County, you stand to benefit greatly by the collective efforts of TRI-COUNTY METRO. Whether using local street enforcement

"I am convinced that by combining our talent, resources and technology, we are more successful."



efforts, interdiction, education/prevention, or taking full advantage of the highly specialized crime fighting tools offered by state and federal agencies, TRI-COUNTY METRO officers are committed to making a difference in your community.

While cocaine and marijuana still seem to be the drugs of choice found in many of our communities, now on the scene, and positioned to spread like a brush fire, is METHAMPHETAMINE. The Tri-County area has seen an alarming increase in methamphetamine clandestine labs (cooking sites), and the state is seeing an increase in meth reported cases as well.

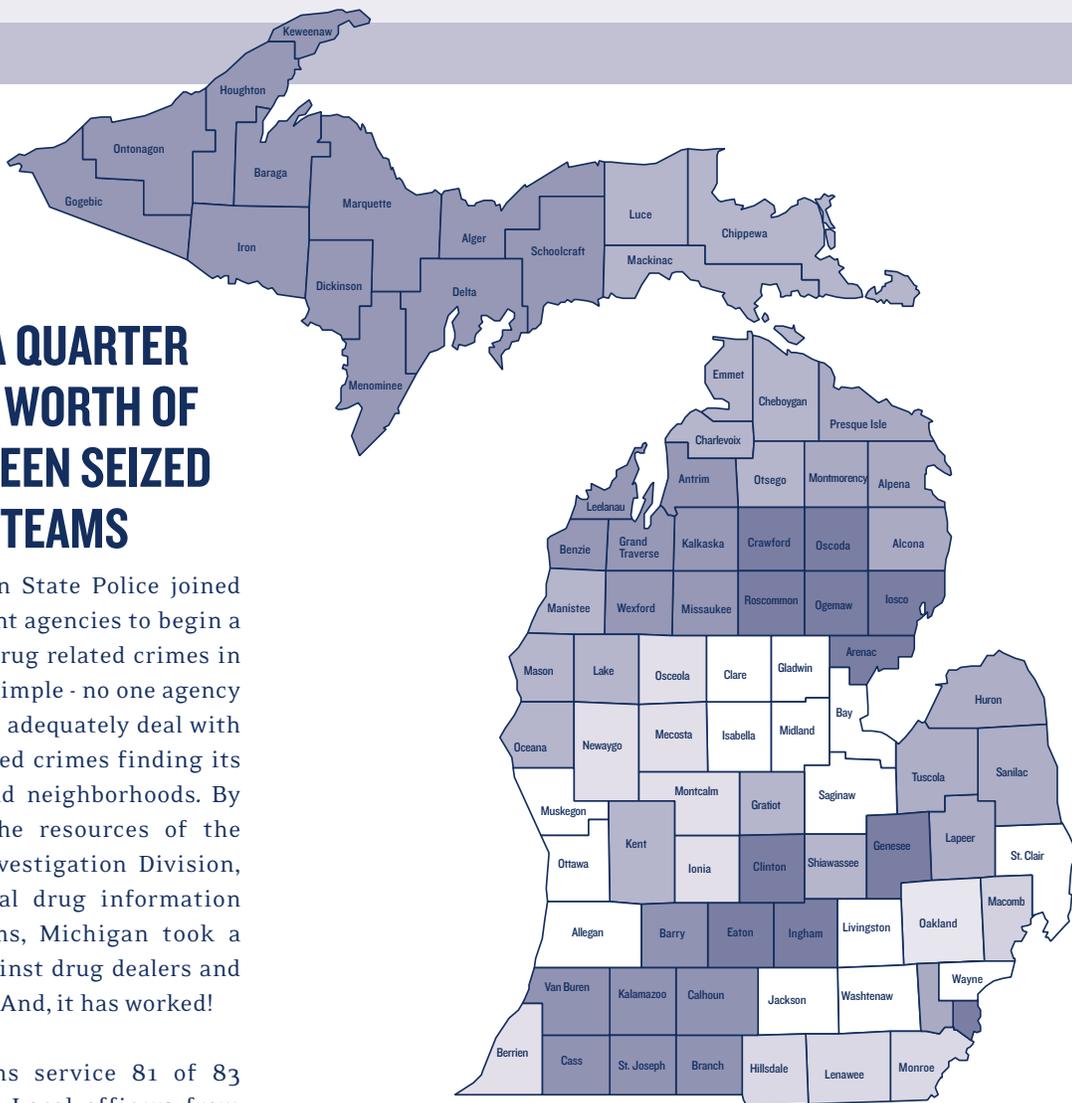
Methamphetamine is like no other drug we have seen before in the Tri-County area,

due to the fact that it is often manufactured (cooked) right here in our community and not imported as is the case with other illegal drugs. As you read about methamphetamine in this newsletter, you will

see how deadly and dangerous this drug really is. I encourage you to become aware of the dangers associated with methamphetamine, to report any suspicious activities and to help TRI-COUNTY METRO officers in their efforts to keep this devastating drug from taking over our community.

**TO REPORT DRUGS/DRUG DEALERS
(517) 394-5588
TOLL FREE 1 (866) NO-2-DRUG
1-866-662-3784**

LOCAL MULTIJURISDICTIONAL DRUG TEAMS HAVING IMPACT ON MICHIGAN DRUG EFFORTS



SINCE 2000, ALMOST A QUARTER OF A BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF STREET DRUGS HAVE BEEN SEIZED IN MICHIGAN BY DRUG TEAMS

In the Spring of 1977, the Michigan State Police joined with local and county law enforcement agencies to begin a new concept in fighting drugs and drug related crimes in local communities. The concept was simple - no one agency had all the manpower or resources to adequately deal with the increase in drugs and drug related crimes finding its way into Michigan communities and neighborhoods. By combining local resources with the resources of the Michigan State Police, Criminal Investigation Division, along with state police and federal drug information identification and tracking systems, Michigan took a major step in bringing the fight against drug dealers and drug related crimes to the local level. And, it has worked!

Currently, multijurisdictional teams service 81 of 83 counties in the State of Michigan. Local officers from approximately 550 city and township law enforcement agencies, county deputies from 81 counties and troopers from the Michigan State Police are assigned to these task forces. The teams are funded in part through the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Drug Control Policy, Michigan State Police, and local governing bodies.

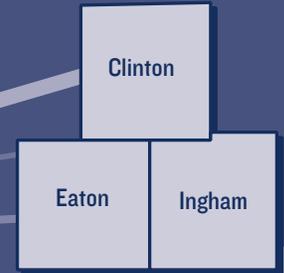
Just in the past four years, the multijurisdictional task forces have been responsible for arresting and removing approximately 14,450 drug criminals from our neighborhoods, streets and schools. In four years, the local task forces have also removed more than \$274,478,398 in street-drugs from local communities—drugs intended for our children and loved ones. As a result of the dedicated efforts of the multijurisdictional teams, tens of millions of dollars in assets and property that would have been used to continue drug trafficking in our communities - has been seized and removed from drug dealers.

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B.A.Y.A.N.E.T.	Bay Area Narcotics Enforcement Team	989/790-6581
C.M.E.T.	Central Michigan Enforcement Team	989/352-6738
F.A.N.G.	Flint Area Narcotics Group	810/233-3689
H.U.N.T.	Huron Undercover Narcotics Team	989/356-3395
J.N.E.T.	Jackson Narcotics Enforcement Team	517/784-2990
M.A.G.N.E.T.	Mid-Michigan Area Narcotics Enforcement Team	989/725-7254
M.E.T.	Metropolitan Enforcement Team	616/456-4801
S.A.N.E.	Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement	231/238-8692
S.S.C.E.N.T.	State, Sheriffs, Chiefs Enforcement Team	231/843-7045
S.T.I.N.G.	Strike Team Investigative Narcotics Group	989/345-2304
S.W.E.T.	South-West Enforcement Team	269/962-1225
T.N.T.	Traverse Narcotics Team	231/922-0993
T.N.U.	Thumb Narcotics Unit	989/673-8600
T.C.M.	Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad	517/394-5588
U.P.S.E.T.	Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team	906/346-9289
W.E.M.E.T.	West Michigan Enforcement Team	616/994-6520
C.O.M.E.T.	County of Macomb Enforcement Team	586/790-3990
W.W.N.	Western Wayne Narcotics	734/397-9811
D.R.A.N.O.	Down River Area Narcotics Organization	734/479-1710
L.A.W.N.E.T.	Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team	810/227-7897
O.M.N.I.	Office of Monroe Narcotics Investigations	734/848-3445

TAKING DRUGS & DRUG CRIMINALS

Off our streets



NOT SO DUMB AFTERALL!

Working on a tip that a Lansing area man was growing marijuana, TRI-COUNTY METRO undercover officers decided to take a knock and talk approach. Arriving at the scene, officers found two men parked in the driveway talking and of course, smoking a joint.

Upon removing the men from the vehicle, officers smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from the house. Upon further questioning, one of the men became pale and nearly passed out—with good reason!

Inside the house were 2800 marijuana plants and \$486,000 in a duffle bag. The subject told the officers, “When I saw you guys coming up the driveway my first thought was to run inside and get the duffle bag, but I was smart enough to know I couldn’t out run you guys with a 70 pound bag of money!”

SLOW LEARNER

A reoccurring problem for most drug enforcement officers is the fact that many meth cooks, once caught, serve their time, and then go right back to cooking again. Such was the case recently in southern Ingham County. TRI-COUNTY METRO officers executed a search warrant at the residence of a well-known area meth cooker. They were able to seize several items consistent with the manufacturing of meth. This was the fifth time he had been arrested for meth related charges and the third time officers had conducted a search at his house. When officers finally tracked him down they found him meeting with his probation officer.

JUST A QUARTER MILE AWAY

The Dewitt Township Police Department contacted TRI-COUNTY METRO officers regarding a suspicious fire and explosion at a pole barn. A man staying at the location was a known drug trafficker and had been under investigation prior to the explosion for manufacturing methamphetamine. Investigators arriving at the scene found various components used to manufacture methamphetamine. Fire Marshall Investigators determined that the explosion was the result of a methamphetamine lab.

The force of the explosion caused the sidewalls of the pole barn to blow outward, resulting in extensive damage. The suspect’s parents rented the premises from an unsuspecting landlord. A witness was able to identify the suspect as he fled the scene with his girlfriend. The suspect turned himself in several days later and now faces federal drug charges. Investigators learned that he had been



cooking methamphetamine for some time and that his children had been present during the dangerous cooking process. The minor children were placed in foster care and are now wards of the court.

Ironically, the location of the explosion and fire was only a quarter of a mile away from a site that was used to produce a methamphetamine public service announcement just months before.

SUMMARY 2003

TOTAL CASES

285

TOTAL ARREST COUNTS

395

NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED

181

DRUG SEIZED / PURCHASED

\$3,236,137

(STREET VALUE)



Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad

REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY (517) 394-5588