



*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Mississippi*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 17, 2011

17 ARRESTED ON DRUG CHARGES

Jackson, Miss - 17 individuals have been arrested in Hinds, Rankin, Madison, Forrest and Lafayette counties today on state and federal drug trafficking charges, U.S. Attorney John Dowdy, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics Director Marshall Fisher, DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Joel Reece, Rankin County District Attorney Michael Guest, and Lafayette County District Attorney Ben Creekmore announced.

The arrests are the result of an extensive undercover operation, dubbed "Operation Brilliant Orange", which began as an operation targeting club drugs such as MDMA (Ecstasy), LSD, and high grade marijuana being distributed in the Jackson Metro area. Agents quickly identified a large trafficking network operating in Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Lafayette, and Forrest counties. This network was responsible for distributing large quantities of high grade marijuana, LSD, and "MOLLY" which is a pure crystalline form of MDMA. As this investigation progressed, agents identified a larger distribution network importing the illegal drugs from Amsterdam and distributing them throughout the United States. Agents were able to completely dismantle the entire network and stop this supply coming to Mississippi and across the United States. During the investigation, federal and state agents seized approximately 13 lbs. of high grade marijuana, 122 dosage units of LSD, and 3.5 lbs. of MDMA (MOLLY), with an estimated street value of approximately \$300,000. Also seized were nine firearms, two vehicles, and approximately \$35,000 in cash.

The lead investigative agency in this operation is the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics Jackson Enforcement Team (consisting of MBN, Jackson Police Department, Hinds County Sheriff's Office, Mississippi Department of Corrections). Assisting agencies include the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Investigations, HIDTA, United States Attorney's Office Southern District of Mississippi, Madison Police Department, Lafayette Metro Narcotics Unit, Lafayette County Sheriff's Office, Rankin County Sheriff's Office, Rankin County District Attorney's Office, and Pearl River County Sheriff's Office.

The following individuals have been indicted:

Joseph Patrick Coates, 21, of Pearl (arrested)

State Indictments:

- One count of trafficking in controlled substances in Rankin County
- One count of sale of MDMA in Rankin County
- One count of sale of LSD in Madison County
- One count of sale of MDMA in Lafayette County

- One count of possession of Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- One count of possession of Amphetamine in Lafayette County

Federal Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute MDMA
- Four counts of possession with intent to distribute MDMA

Mark Frank Davis, 55 (arrested)

State Indictments:

- One count of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute in Madison County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Madison County
- Two counts of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Lafayette County

Federal Indictments:

- One count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute MDMA
- Six counts of possession with intent to distribute MDMA

Charles Michael Autry, of Palestine, Arkansas (arrested in Arkansas)

Federal Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute MDMA
- One count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA

Daniel Blake Huber, of Jonesboro, Arkansas (arrested in Arkansas)

Federal Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute MDMA
- One count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA

Kayla Bieltz, 21, of Oxford

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to sell/transfer Oxycodone in Lafayette County

John Dullion Blair, 21, of Oxford (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Lafayette County
- Four counts of conspiracy to possess Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- Two counts of conspiracy to sell/transfer Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- One count of possession of marijuana in Lafayette County

Dylan Bryan, 21, of Jackson (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Lafayette County

David Coates, 56, of Pearl (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute in Rankin County
- Two counts of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Rankin County

Mary Alice Coates, 20, of Pearl

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess hashish with intent to distribute in Madison County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana in Madison County
- One count of conspiracy to sell/deliver marijuana in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess hashish in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to sell/deliver MDMA in Lafayette County
- Two counts of conspiracy to possess MDMA in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess MDMA with intent to deliver in Lafayette County
- Four counts of conspiracy to sell/deliver Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- One count of possession of methylphenidate (Ritalin) in Lafayette County
- One count of sale/transfer of MDMA in Lafayette County

William Coleman, 21, of Brandon (arrested)

State Indictment:

- Three counts of possession of controlled substance in Rankin County
- One count of conspiracy to possess a controlled substance with intent to distribute in Rankin County
- One count of conspiracy to possess a controlled substance in Rankin County

Sean Cummins, 19, of Oxford (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of sale of MDMA in Lafayette County

Elizabeth Curtis, 19, of Oxford

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess MDMA in Lafayette County

Ahmed Duais, 24, of Oxford (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess Alprazolam in Lafayette County

Landon Foster, 24, of Hattiesburg

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Lafayette County

Conner Gardner, 25, of Hattiesburg (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Rankin County
- One count of conspiracy to sell/deliver Oxycodone in Lafayette County

Stephen Hart, 20, of West Memphis, Arkansas

State Indictment:

- Two counts of conspiracy to possess a controlled substance in Rankin County
- Two counts of conspiracy to sell/transfer a controlled substance in Rankin County

Travis Hodges, 18, of Brandon (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess Oxycodone in Rankin County
- One count of conspiracy to possess Hashish in Lafayette County

William Huff, 24, of Oxford (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to sell/deliver marijuana in Lafayette County

Blayze Kraft, 21, of Hattiesburg (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess MDMA with intent to distribute in Lafayette County

Mary Jane Miranda a/k/a Mary Jane Miranda Blair, illegal alien (arrested)

State Indictment:

- Two counts of conspiracy to sell/deliver Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess MDMA in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana in Lafayette County
- One count of possession of MDMA in Lafayette County

Hagen Napier, 24, of Hattiesburg

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- Three counts of conspiracy to sell/deliver Oxycodone in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to Sell/deliver Adderall (1 Count Lafayette Co)

Joseph Collins Peoples, 20, of West Memphis Arkansas

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to sell/deliver Oxycodone in Lafayette County

Brian Sykes, 22 (arrested)

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana in Lafayette County

Travis Ward, 22

State Indictment:

- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Rankin County
- One count of conspiracy to possess marijuana with intent to distribute in Madison County
- One count of conspiracy to possess MDMA in Lafayette County
- One count of conspiracy to sell/transfer marijuana in Lafayette County

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