

PRESS RELEASE

METRICH Enforcement Unit
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRUG ARRESTS

On 02/26/08 around 1:00 pm detectives with the Marion County Sheriff's Office Strike Team and Marion City Police Department assigned to the MARMET/METRICH Drug Task Force arrested two local men following several hours of surveillance. The subjects were followed to Columbus where it is believed the drugs were picked up and then they were followed back to Marion County where officers attempted to stop the vehicle. The Hyundai Sonata did not comply and led one marked sheriff's office cruiser and four unmarked vehicles on a pursuit which lasted about five minutes and went along Ohio 47 and Ohio 257 and into Delaware County. Speeds reached up to 50 mph on the snow covered roads.

While officers were pursuing the suspects a can was thrown out the window which was later recovered and 82 balls of heroin were found inside the can. The chase ended when the suspects voluntarily stopped the vehicle. Several syringes were also recovered from inside the vehicle. Each ball (dose) of Heroin sells for around \$40.00. The Delaware County Drug Task Force assisted the Strike Team and the MARMET/METRICH detectives at the scene.

David Laughrey, age 28, of 230 W. Columbia Street, and Douglas A. Massey II, age 23, of 188 Elk Street, have both been charged with possession of heroin. The case will be forwarded to the Marion County Prosecutor's Office for consideration of formal charges.

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:
1-800-589-DARE and www.METRICH.com

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