

News Release

METRICH Enforcement Unit
30 North Diamond Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

Chief Keith Porch
Project Director



For Immediate Release

No # 4

Date: 09/28/2020

Contact: Lt. Jason Bammann
(419) 755-9726 Fax:(419) 522-7546

Subject: Drug Sweep

On September 28, 2020, the METRICH Enforcement Unit, FBI, US Marshalls, and the Richland County Sheriff's Department conducted an operation that focused on seventeen individuals, within the county. These individuals were found to be apart of a larger drug trafficking organization that was responsible for distributing large amounts of Methamphetamine into the community. This organization's ties reached as far as California.

METRICH Commander Lt. Jason Bammann stated the investigation stemmed from evidence collected by METRICH detectives, the FBI, and the Sheriff's Department. This evidence resulted in the September 24th Federal indictments of these individuals. During the operation, fifteen of the seventeen subjects were arrested. Detectives also served three search warrants which netted over 155 grams of suspected methamphetamine and other miscellaneous drugs. At this time only Antoine Bentley and Zachary Wallen remain at large.

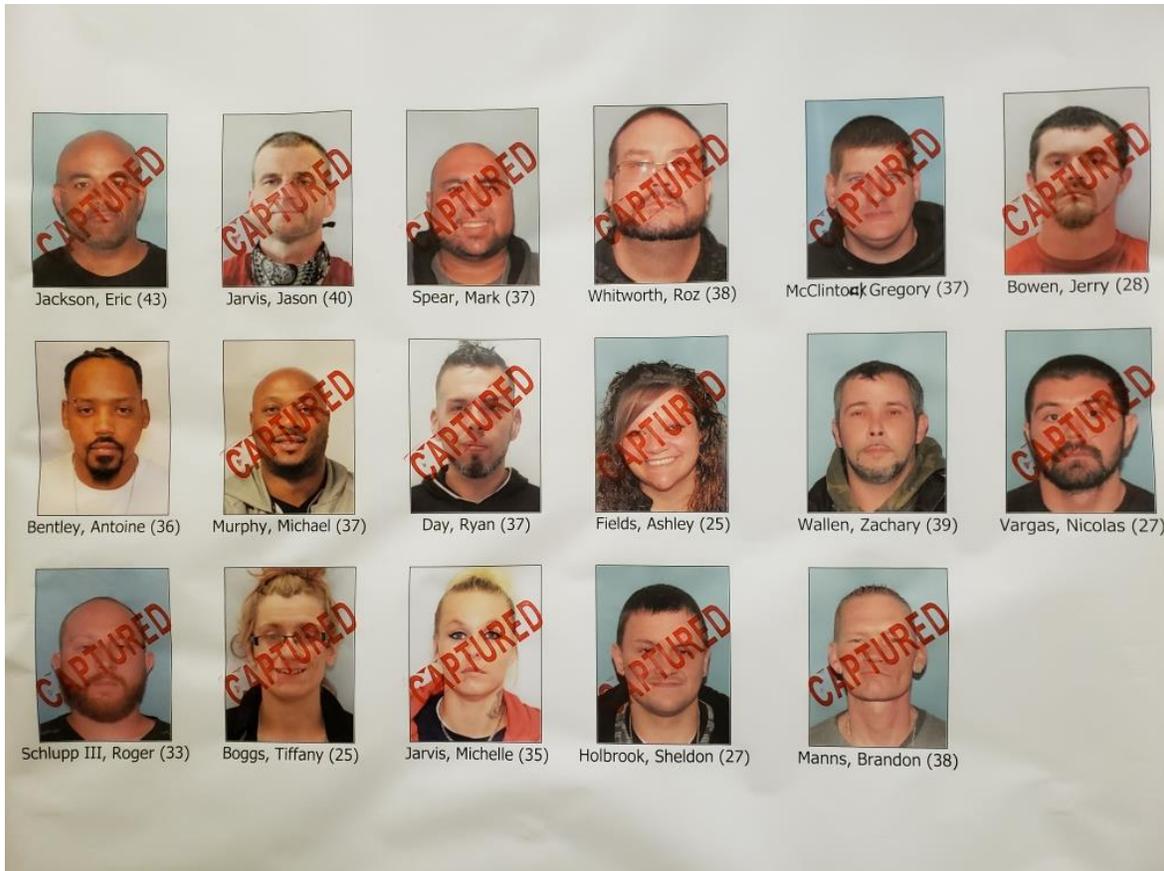
Lt. Jason Bammann also thanks those in the community who called in the tips and complaints which assisted detectives in this investigation. He encourages future tips and complaints as it is the community's eyes and ears that aid METRICH in having a positive impact on those communities.

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:
419-522-7463 and www.METRICH.com**



The METRICH Enforcement Unit will continue to target those individuals who engage in trafficking drugs and use all available resources to assist in removing illegal drugs from Mansfield/Richland County, Ohio. The METRICH Enforcement Unit encourages citizens to continue to be proactive by reporting suspected drug activity. Citizens can call the METRICH Crime Tip Hotline at 419-52-CRIME (419-522-7463) or the Task Force line at 419-755-9728.



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Still At Large



Antoine Bentley
DOB 12/03/83
Trafficking - Methamphetamine



Zachary Wallen
DOB 09/11/81
Trafficking – Methamphetamine

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