

News Release

METRICH Enforcement Unit
30 North Diamond Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

Chief Kenneth A Coontz
Project Director



For Immediate Release

No #8

Date: September 12, 2018

Contact: Lt. Joseph D. Petrycki
(419) 755-9728 Fax: (419) 522-7546

Subject: Search Warrant Served

RICHLAND COUNTY, OH: On September 11, 2018 at approximately 1940 hours the U.S. Marshal's Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force (NOVFTF) arrested Deshawn A. Dowdell on a Murder warrant issued by the Mansfield Division of Police. The Mansfield Division of Police Major Crimes Unit had developed Deshawn A. Dowdell as a suspect in the homicide of Terrence T. Harris after a lengthy investigation. The homicide occurred on April 8, 2018 in the area of 1340 W. 4th St. Mansfield, Ohio. The arrest took place at 383 Wood St. Apt. #7 Mansfield, Ohio. During the arrest, NOVFTF Task Force Officers located numerous items of evidence related to drug trafficking and contacted the METRICH Enforcement Unit for further assistance.

Based on the information received from the NOVFTF, METRICH detectives were able to secure a search warrant for 383 Wood St. Apt. #7. During the search, detectives seized approximately one (1) kilogram (2.2 pounds) of suspected heroin/fentanyl, two (2) handguns, \$3,386.00 in U.S. currency, suspected drug presses, cutting agents and other assorted drug paraphernalia. Deshawn A. Dowdell was incarcerated at the Richland County Jail where he was served with the Murder warrant. He remains incarcerated pending his appearance in court. Additional charges related to possession of drugs and drug trafficking will be forwarded to the Richland County Prosecutor's Office for review.

A preliminary analysis of the suspected drugs indicated approximately 400 grams of heroin and 500 grams of fentanyl. The analysis was conducted by the Mansfield Division of Police Forensic Science Section.

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**



METRICH Commander Lt. Joseph D. Petrycki stated this investigation was the result of collaboration between the NOVTF and the METRICH Enforcement Unit sharing information which not only resulted in the arrest of a murder suspect, but removing a significant amount of illicit fentanyl from the community.

Citizens are encouraged 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.



Deshawn A. Dowdell DOB: 11/18/1994
Charges: Murder-F1



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