



ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

444 SW 4TH STREET, ONTARIO, OR 97914
OFFICE: (541) 881-3225 DISPATCH: (541) 473-5125 FAX: (541) 889-3026

Michael Iwai
Chief of Police

Press Release

5/11/2023
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release #23-05-01

Ontario, Oregon: On May 10, 2023, the High Desert Drug Task Force served a search warrant on a residence on NW 11th Avenue in Ontario utilizing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Special Response Team (ATF-SRT). Sixteen individuals were located on scene and five of them were arrested for various outstanding arrest warrants or new commercial drug charges. Approximately four pounds of methamphetamine was seized along with almost a half-pound of fentanyl, numerous firearms, and a large amount of drug currency.

The investigation was only made possible with the joint efforts of multiple Oregon, Idaho and Federal Agencies working together to help combat the rampant drug dealing and gun violence overtaking the Malheur County area. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Homeland Security Investigations, Ontario Police Department, Oregon State Police, Malheur County Sheriff's Office, Ada County Sheriff's Office, and the Payette Police Department all worked together to make this investigation successful.

Lee Fortin Sr, age 34, out of Ontario was arrested for Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance (PCS), Delivery of a Controlled Substance (DCS), and Manufacturing of a Controlled Substance (MCS) - Methamphetamine and Felony PCS/DCS/MCS – Fentanyl.

Emanuel Gonzalez, age 34, out of Nampa, Idaho was arrested for a Felony Oregon Parole Board Warrant with sex crime, unlawful use of a weapon, and possession of firearms charges pending.

Francisco Eugenio Bethancorth, age 35, unhoused out of Ontario was arrested for a Felony Oregon Parole Board Warrant.

Vanessa Michelle Laney, age 21, unhoused out of Ontario was arrested for two Misdemeanor Unlawful Possession of a Firearm Failure to Appear Warrants.

Misty Marie Doig, age 42, unhoused out of Ontario was arrested for a Misdemeanor Contempt of Court Warrant.

Brooke Ann Hoodie, age 20, out of Ontario was arrested on a Misdemeanor Larceny Warrant.

If you are a victim of a sex crime or sex abuse, please contact the Tri-County Anti-Trafficking Taskforce at 800-889-2000 for assistance. You are a survivor, and you can recover. The Ontario Police Department asks that criminal activity be reported to the Malheur County Dispatch Center at 541-473-5125.

CONTACT:

Chief Michael Iwai: Monday Through Friday 8:00-5:00 pm to request in-person or telephonic interview.