



South Central Drug Investigations Unit

300 5th Street West, Northfield, MN 55057 – 507-663-0315

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

Members

Faribault Co. Sheriff
Freeborn Co. Sheriff
Rice Co. Sheriff
Steele Co. Sheriff
Waseca Co. Sheriff
Albert Lea Police
Blooming Prairie Police
Blue Earth Police
Dundas Police
Faribault Police
Janesville Police
Lonsdale Police
Northfield Police
Owatonna Police
Wabasha Police
Wells Police
Winnebago Police

Today the South Central Drug Investigation Unit, Faribault and Northfield Police Departments, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Marshal's Service, Minnesota Gang Strike Force, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Minnesota State Patrol, Dakota, Faribault, Freeborn, LeSueur, Ramsey, Rice and Steele County and Apple Valley, Dundas, Lonsdale, Owatonna and St. Paul Police Departments served fourteen search warrants and approximately 70 arrest warrants in the Cities of Northfield and Faribault.

There were approximately 200 law enforcement personnel involved in these arrests. A total of 50 individuals have been arrested for first, second and third degree controlled substance crimes, racketeering and illegal firearms possession. Several weapons were confiscated as well as an undetermined amount of narcotics.

The investigation that lead to these arrests began approximately one year ago in response to complaints received from individuals who live in the area.

We would like to point out to the citizens of these communities how dedicated we are to ensuring the safety and well being of those people who are law-abiding residents of our cities. We are committed to reducing the gang related violence in these areas and will use all available resources to assist us in that endeavor.

There are 26 outstanding arrest warrants and additional arrests in this case are anticipated.

For additional information, contact:

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Faribault Police Chief Mike Lewis at 507-334-4305
ATF PIO Sherry Duval at 651-470-8763

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