

**River to Jail City Council Report
From July 1 to September 30, 2014**



Office of the Chief

This document was specifically prepared for the City of Huntington—Office of the Mayor and Huntington City Council.

Operation River to Jail

In July of 2014 City Council and the Mayor allocated the Huntington Police Department the resources to focus on rapid response street level drug operations. Some long term investigations related to the local drug trade have also concluded in the past three months. These investigations started months or in some cases years before we began the River to Jail campaign. This report will act as an update on what we have accomplished during operations related to the River to Jail campaign, as well as some completed long term investigations over the past three months.

Over the last three months, the Huntington Police Department has arrested 226 individuals for various drug crimes. The Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) has executed 25 search warrants seizing 604 grams of heroin, 106 grams of crack, 120 grams of cocaine, 535 grams of marijuana, and 148,475 dosage units of prescription medications. The street value of the prescription pills is approximately \$5,939,000. The street value of the heroin, crack, cocaine, and marijuana is approximately \$118,141.97. Also seized by SIB were 33 guns, 9 vehicles, and \$138,723 in currency with another \$2,480,154¹ seized after a long term investigation. Another thing of note is that over the past three months ten people have pled guilty in the preliminary hearing phase of the trial. Although not unheard of this is highly unusual and speaks to the quality of work that the SIB is conducting.

Warrant Sweep

Over the past three months the HPD has conducted two warrant sweeps that have targeted people involved with drug crime, drug related crime, and violent crime. The first sweep occurred in early August and targeted sixty-three² individuals. To date thirty of these individuals have been arrested. The second warrant sweep occurred later that month and targeted another thirty-two individuals with sixteen being arrested as of September 30th. We will continue to pursue these individuals even if they have left the jurisdiction.

Special Investigations Bureau Operations

Currently the HPD Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) consists of ten individuals assigned to five different units and task forces. This includes the FBI Violent Crime Drug Task Force, Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, Drug Enforcement Administration Tactical Diversion Squad, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives River City Gun Task Force, and the Special Emphasis Unit. Individuals in this bureau spend the majority of their time focused on the drug issues the city faces.

¹ This \$2,480,154 is pending equitable sharing with other agencies involved in the investigation. HPD is expected to receive around \$100,000 at some point in the future.

² Although a number of the individuals have left the jurisdiction we have signed active warrants on them in case they return to the area.

With the additional resources allocated to this problem in July of 2014 the SIB has been able to respond more rapidly to street level drug dealers that are plaguing our community. Some of the targets the Special emphasis Unit (SEU) unit has been focusing on are dealers that may not have a large volume of drugs sales, but have a large negative impact on the community. The other units continue to work larger operations that attempt to impede the flow of drugs into the region.

Over the past three months the SEU has made thirty-four arrests (elven for misdemeanor charges and twenty-three for felony charges), executed thirteen search warrants, seized over 230 grams of drugs (Crack, marijuana, heroin), seized four guns, seized \$29,536 dollars in currency and dismantled two meth labs. The FBI Violent Crime Drug Task Force (HVCDFDTF) had made forty-nine arrests (nine for misdemeanor charges and forty for felony charges), conducted five search warrants, seized over 900 grams of illegal drugs, seized eleven guns, and seized \$105,187 dollars. The DEA/ATF Task Force has been involved with a long term investigation, but has still seized almost 100 grams of drugs and thousands of dollars in cash. Finally the DEA Diversion squad has also been involved with a long term investigation that has prevented over 146,858 dosage units of pills from hitting the streets. The street value of these pills is around \$5,874,320.00. They also seized almost 2.5 million dollars during this operation. This investigation, which began many months ago, shows the importance of working with other local, state, and federal agencies in tackling the drug problem in our area.

<i>River to Jail Drug Arrests 7/1/14 - 9/30/14</i>	
Detective Bureau	16
Patrol Bureau	121
Special Investigations Bureau	89
Total Arrests	226

<i>SIB Operations 7/1/14- 9/30/14</i>	
	Last Three Months River to Jail 7/1/14 - 9/30/24
Arrests	89
<i>Misdemeanor</i>	20
<i>Felony</i>	69
Indictments	16
Search Warrants	25
Heroin (grams)	460
Pills (DU)	148,475*
Crack (grams)	106
Cocaine (grams)	120
Marijuana (grams)	535
Synthetic Drugs (grams)	0
Guns	33
Vehicles Seized	9
Currency	\$138,723 #
Nuisance Property Notifications	18
Cases Open due to Tipline Calls	29
Arrests Due to Cases Open by Tipline Calls	19

* Due to long term Investigation

Due to the same long term investigation related to the large seizure of pills HPD will be due an additional six figure amount of currency that is not included in the \$138,723 shown above. HPD will also be receiving a portion of the money from the sale of a number of semi-tractor trailers due to a different long term investigation. That number could also reach six figures and is not included.

SIB Unit Operations River to Jail 7/1/14 - 9/30/14

	Special Emphasis Unit (SEU)	FBI Violent Crime Drug Task Force (HVCDFTF)	DEA/ATF Task Force	DEA Diversion	Total
Arrests	34	49	2	4	89
<i>Misdemeanor</i>	11	9	0	0	20
<i>Felony</i>	23	40	2	4	69
Indictments	1	13	1	1	16
Search Warrants	13	5	2	5	25
Heroin (grams)	186	262	12	0	460
Pills (DU)	138	1,435	44	146,858	148,475
Crack (grams)	41	5	60	0	106
Cocaine (grams)	0	120	0	0	120
Marijuana (grams)	5	530	0	0	535
Guns	4	11	18	0	33
Vehicles Seized	1	1	6	1	10
Currency	\$29,536	\$105,187	\$4,000	\$2,480,154	\$2,618,877

Individual Operations

Along with the overall picture of SIB operations, we would like to highlight some of the individual successes in shutting down drug houses in Huntington. These investigations targeted street level operations that were highly detrimental to the surrounding community. Although not an all-inclusive list, the following examples are indicative of our efforts. You will continue to see operations like this for the foreseeable future.

- 600 Block 6th Ave – 8/22/14

The Huntington Police Department's Special Emphasis Unit and the Huntington Violent Crime Federal Drug Task Force executed a search warrant and arrested Jamaal Coleman for possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance. During a search of the location heroin and crack was found.



Jamaal Coleman being arrested by a member of the SEU

- 2100 Block of Adams Avenue – 8/25/14

After receiving numerous tips member of SIB executed a search warrant and arrested Desiree Pressley of Huntington, Kimberly Hazinski of Huntington Heather Butcher of Huntington, Ryan Fortune of Detroit, and John Miller of Detroit. All the individuals were charged with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance. During the operation heroin, crack, marijuana, over \$16,000 in currency, and drug paraphernalia was seized.

- 6300 Block of East Pea Ridge – 8/27/14

The Huntington Violent Crime Drug Task Force, Huntington Police Department SWAT Team, and Special Emphasis Unit executed a search warrant and found heroin, prescription pills, guns and currency at the following location. Porcha Raspberry-Perry and Lawrence Works, both of Detroit, were arrested and charged with various drug crimes. Although this location is outside the city limits of Huntington, drug dealers should know that the FBI Drug Task Force’s jurisdiction extends to areas not possible without working together with other local, state, and federal agencies.



HPD SWAT Team entering the apartment at 6300 East Pea Ridge

- 700 Block of 16th street West – 9/8/14
Members of the HPD Special Emphasis Unit and the FBI Huntington Violent Crimes Drug Task Force executed the search warrant and arrested Greg Bryan. A distribution amount of heroin and prescription pills were seized during the operation. Mr. Bryan was charged with possession with the intent to deliver.
- 16th Street & Charleston Avenue – 9/12/14
Members of the Huntington Police Department's Special Emphasis Unit and the FBI Huntington Violent Crime Federal Drug Task Force arrested Raeshaun Byrd and William Nellons Jr. They were charged with various drug crimes including possession with intent to deliver. During the operation a distribution amount of heroin was seized.
- 400 Block of 9th Street West – 9/24/14
The Special Emphasis Unit, Huntington Violent Crime Federal Drug Task Force, along with the HPD SWAT Team executed a search warrant. Danielle Landis of Huntington and Rudolph Bass of Detroit were charged with possession with intent to deliver. Heroin and currency were recovered and seized during the search.
- 100 Block of 7th Avenue West – 9/26/14
The Special Emphasis Unit arrested Donald Lee Walker after a surveillance operation. He was charged with delivery of a controlled substance.

Conclusion

Overall, the Huntington Police Department is pleased with how operations have gone so far, but will continue to put pressure on drug dealers that choose to operate in Huntington. We are currently on pace to meet our goals with the number of arrests, indictments, and search warrants the SIB has conducted over the past three months. The SEU will continue its rapid response mission of targeting street level drug houses.