



Eureka Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Eureka Police Department

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3/11/2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: 4 Arrested, Meth and Heroin Seized during Two POP Operations

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On 3/10/11, at about 9:45 AM, Detectives with the Eureka Police Department's Problem Oriented Policing Unit (POP) executed a search warrant at a Vine Street apartment. The warrant was obtained after the POP Unit received tips and neighborhood complaints about drug use and dealing stemming from the residence.

Detectives detained two residents inside the apartment, Gene Delmar Cave (63 of Eureka) and James Matthew Bell (30 of Eureka). During a subsequent search of the apartment, detectives found evidence of drug sales activity, including numerous pre-cut drug packaging bindles, and drug use paraphernalia, including numerous hypodermic syringes, "cooker spoons," and empty packing containing suspected heroin residue.

Cave (the person responsible for the property) was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional facility where he was booked for maintaining a place for drug use/sales (a felony offense).

Bell was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional facility where he was booked for maintaining a place for drug use/sales, possession of drug paraphernalia, and unlawful possession of hypodermic syringes.

A third suspect named in the search warrant, Dennis Michael Burriesci (43), was not present at the time the warrant was served. At about 1:55 PM, POP detectives spotted Burriesci in a white Cadillac near Myrtle and 6th Streets. Detectives stopped the Cadillac, in which Burriesci was a passenger, and served the warrant on him. Detectives located 2-3 grams of heroin concealed on his person.

Burriesci was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession of heroin.

At about 3:45 PM, Burriesci's cell phone rang and a Detective answered it. A male, later identified as Nhia Vang (27 of Eureka), asked for "Dennis" (Burriesci) with whom he seemed familiar. When the detective answered as Burriesci, Vang stated he had some cocaine which he offered to sell to the detective.



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Vang agreed to meet with "Dennis" to complete the drug sales transaction and when he arrived at their pre-arranged meeting location, detectives were waiting for him. At about 4:30 PM, POP detectives conducted a vehicle stop on Vang's Nissan Frontier near 14th and Broadway.

Vang was taken into custody on suspicion of possession and transportation of a controlled substance for sale. Detectives located two baggies of suspected cocaine (10 grams or over ¼ ounce) inside his vehicle.

Vang was transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession and transportation of a controlled substance for sale. Subsequent testing of the substance found in his vehicle revealed it was actually methamphetamine.

Anyone with information concerning drug sales activity and drug houses within the City of Eureka is encouraged to contact the Problem Oriented Policing Unit at (707) 441-4373.

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Gene Cave



James Bell



Dennis Burriesci



Nhia Vang

