



Eureka Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Eureka Police Department

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3/08/2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: POP Search Warrants Net 8 Ounces (1/2 pound) of Heroin

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On the morning of 3/04/11, Detectives with the Eureka Police Department's Problem Oriented Policing Unit (POP), assisted by Agents with the Humboldt County Drug Task Force, executed two related search warrants at locations in Arcata and the Indianola area. The search warrants were obtained after the POP Unit developed information Michael Allen Kowtko Sr. was trafficking heroin in the greater Eureka area.

At about 8:45 AM, Detectives and Agents observed Kowtko arrive in a red Ford Ranger at a self-storage facility on the 1300 block of Guintoli Lane, Arcata. Kowtko and another male were seen meeting in front of a storage unit where they appeared to be engaged in some type of narcotics transaction. When Kowtko and the other male got in their vehicles and started to leave the facility, Detectives and Agents blocked the gate to prevent them from leaving. Both subjects were then ordered out of their vehicles at gunpoint and detained in handcuffs.

During a subsequent search of Kowtko's vehicle, POP Detectives located approximately 202 grams of tar heroin (over 7 ounces) concealed inside a small safe in a suitcase, along with drug sales packaging materials, cutting agents (burned sugar), and drug use paraphernalia (a hypodermic syringe etc.). Detectives also searched Kowtko's storage unit where they located ammunition (.22 LR), a 9mm Taurus pistol magazine, and a Remington bolt-action 30-06 rifle.

Kowtko was a convicted felon/addict and as such is prohibited from owning or possessing firearms or ammunition.

After searching and securing the storage unit, Detectives and Agents proceeded to Kowtko's residence at a mobile home park in the 3600 block of Old Arcata Road. (The other male was released at the scene). Detectives and Agents subsequently located another approximately 12.6 grams of heroin inside Kowtko's bedroom. Detectives and Agents also recovered one or more laptops in the trailer that were later determined by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office to have been stolen in their jurisdiction.

Kowtko, 56 of Indianola, was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession and transportation of heroin for sale, unlawful



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possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and unlawful possession of ammunition by a felon/addict.

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Michael Allen Kowtko Sr.





WARNING
Do not use on
carpeted stairs

Swiffer
WETJET
Refill
Covers 100 sq. ft.

