

## **Eureka Police Department**PRESS RELEASE

## **Eureka Police Department**

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6/29/2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: I Street Search Warrant Nets Meth, Heroin, 3 Arrests

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On 6/28/11, at about 6:15 PM, detectives and officers with the Eureka Police Department's Problem Oriented Policing Unit (POP), assisted by Special Agents with the Humboldt County Drug Task Force, executed a search warrant at a residence on the 1800 block of I Street, Eureka. The warrant was obtained after the POP Unit received information residents were selling heroin and methamphetamine from the home.

Officers and agents simultaneously raided the residence and stopped a vehicle being driven by two of the primary suspects near the 700 block of I Street, Eureka. Officers detained Jorge "Alberto" Espitia (41 of Eureka) and Christina Marie Offerman (AKA: Chrissy Swanson, age 30 of Eureka) in Espitia's black Dodge sedan shortly after it left the residence. During a subsequent search of the vehicle, officers located a hidden compartment containing a digital gram scale covered with heroin and methamphetamine residue. Officers also found a baggy containing approximately  $1/3^{rd}$  ounce (10.3 grams) of crystal methamphetamine secreted on Offerman's person, along with over \$1,700.00 cash in her purse. The cash was seized as suspected drug sales proceeds. (Offerman and Jorge Espitia, who are dating and live together, are both currently unemployed). Additionally, illegal "950,000 volt" hard plastic "blast knuckles" were found in Offerman's purse.

Meanwhile, officers and agents detained Jorge Espitia's older brother, Marte "Omar" Espitia, at the 'I' street residence. During a subsequent search of the residence, officers located small but usable quantities of methamphetamine and heroin in their bedrooms along with drug use paraphernalia including a meth pipe. Officers also found additional evidence of drug sales activity in their residence including another hidden digital gram scale and numerous drug packaging materials.

Jorge "Alberto" Espitia was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession of a controlled substance and maintaining a space for purposes of drug use/sales.

Christina Marie Offerman ("Chrissy") was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where she was booked for possession of a controlled substance for sale,



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transportation of a controlled substance, maintaining a space for purposes of drug use/sales, and possession of an illegal/dangerous weapon (hard stun knuckles).

Marte "Omar" Espitia was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and maintaining a space for purposes of drug use/sales.

Anyone with information concerning suspected drug sales activity occurring in Eureka is encouraged to call the Problem Oriented Policing Unit at (707) 441-4373 or the Humboldt County Drug Task Force at (707) 444-8095.

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