

Sheriff

KEN J. MASCARA

4700 West Midway Road, Fort Pierce, Florida 34981



Member National Sheriffs' Association
Member Florida Sheriffs' Association

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News Release

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Operation 2nd Mistake Continues to Put Heroin Dealers Behind Bars

Sheriff Ken Mascara announced the end of a long-term investigation that included numerous federal agency partners and resulted in 13 arrests for dealing in heroin, fentanyl, cocaine and other illegal narcotics.

“Just a few short months ago on January 26, I shared with you Operation Big Mi-Steak and the arrest of Cybill Green and several others responsible for selling heroin and fentanyl throughout our community,” said Sheriff Ken J. Mascara. “Information from that investigation led us to additional individuals in the supply chain, continuing to push these deadly drugs into our neighborhoods.”

According to the Sheriff, Operation 2nd Mistake specifically focused on moving through the hierarchy of the organization identified in Big Mi-Steak to identify co-conspirators, the sources of supply of illegal narcotics, and how proceeds from the sale of the illegal narcotics move through the organization.

“With this as the focus, the investigation identified brothers William Strachan, a violent, habitual, career offender, having served time in federal prison and Leo Douglas,” Mascara said. “In addition to the brothers, 11 other individuals were also arrested.”

According to the Sheriff, probable cause was developed to allow a search warrant in three homes used by Strachan and Douglas and in those search warrants, and throughout the course of the operation, the following were seized: Walther 9mm handgun, Glock handgun, Model 1911 handgun, Palmetto Arms AR-15, 12 gauge shotgun, pistol-style Drako AK-47, Highpoint .45 cal. Handgun, and miscellaneous ammunition, all from convicted felons.

Drugs found during the investigation included ½ kilo of cocaine, 138 grams of powder cocaine, 194 grams of heroin, 740 grams of fentanyl, 34 capsules of heroin, six capsules of a heroin/fentanyl/cocaine mixture, two capsules of a heroin/methamphetamine mixture,

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eight hydromorphone pills, 12 grams of crack cocaine, 54 grams of marijuana, and various drug paraphernalia.

“As part of the investigation, two individuals from south Florida, Tyco Dean and John Allen Crane, Jr. were arrested in Martin County as they attempted to deliver almost half a kilo of heroin and cocaine to Strachan,” Mascara said. “Both Dean and Crane are career criminals who served time in federal prison. John Allen Crane, Jr. has a violent history including armed robbery, armed sexual battery, kidnapping and is a registered sex offender.”

According to the Sheriff, with the exception of Dean and Crane, all of these individuals were booked into the St. Lucie County Jail.

“We continue to work diligently in every way possible to pursue these drug dealers, charge them with everything the law will allow and attempt to put them behind bars for as long as possible to end the pain and suffering they cause so many in our community,” Mascara said. “I want to thank our federal partners for again working so closely with us and thank the men and women of our agency who worked to make this investigation such a success.”

The investigation was a joint partnership between the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, the DEA, ATF, FBI, Homeland Security Investigations and 19th Judicial Circuit State’s Attorney.

ABOUT THE SHERIFF:

The Florida Constitution establishes the Office of the elected County Sheriff who is responsible for preserving the peace, carrying out the orders of Florida courts and the Board of County Commissioners, and providing deputies at court sessions and meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief correctional officer of the county. Sheriff Ken J. Mascara is elected by the people of St. Lucie County and is accountable to them.