

NEWSRELEASE 9/16/09

Couple w/children arrested in Drug Sting

Sheriffs Kell's newly organized investigative unit was successful in their latest investigation and drug buying sting. On 09/16/09 investigators acted on information they received from an informant. The defendant was selling Xanax and marijuana. The investigators set up a buy with this individual. During a telephone conversation the defendant told the investigator he only sells in areas such as schools and churches. So, the defendant and investigator agreed to meet at the church parking lot across from Friend school while church was going on and conduct the sale there. A second call from the defendant advised investigators he had to get the wife and kids ready to make the deal. Apparently the defendant used his wife and kids to cover the illegal activity.

This particular case took a twist when the defendant, his wife and 4 small children arrived at the location to conduct the sale. Upon the completion of the sale, Major Jim Weir as well as the undercover investigators acted swiftly and were able to take both defendants into custody and possession of the small children without incident. The Dept of Human Service was contacted by the deputy investigators concerning the small children involved. DHS advised the deputies to release the children to the custody of their great grandparents.

Sheriff Kell indicated the continuing trend created by the effects of narcotics where never more surprising than this particular case. "We are making every effort to stem the damaging effects these drugs cause to individuals and their families."

In closing, Sheriff Kell is very disturbed about this defendant's actions in using his family and a church to conduct drug sales. "I feel this individual has made an immoral choice in his conduct to betray his family and our God. Selling DRUGS with his children present, and at a church while they are worshipping God – UNBELIEVABLE, JUST PLAIN WRONG!"