

Brown County Sheriff's Office

Gordon Ellis, Sheriff

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Press Release

DATE: August 3, 2023

OFFICE POINT OF CONTACT: Sheriff Gordon Ellis

From July 25, 2023 to July 27, 2023, four arrests were made after a yearlong investigation into a drug trafficking organization that began in the Cincinnati area and provided illegal drugs to Brown County. This investigation was a collaborative effort involving the Brown County Drug Task Force, Brown County Sheriff's Office, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Mount Orab Police Department, Ripley Police Department, Sardinia Police Department and the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force.

This investigation resulted in the seizure of a large amount of Fentanyl, Methamphetamine, and several firearms. The street price of the narcotics seized during the investigation was approximately \$35,000.00 worth of Fentanyl and Methamphetamine.

The individuals were charged with the following drug crimes:

Joshua Childers (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Count 1: Trafficking in Drugs Fentanyl (F-1)
Count 2: Trafficking in Drugs Methamphetamine (F-1)
Count 3: Trafficking in Drugs Methamphetamine (F-1)
Count 4: Possession of Drugs Fentanyl (F-1)
Count 5: Trafficking in Drugs Fentanyl (F-2)
Count 6: Tampering with Evidence (F-3)

Niko Adams (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Count 1: Trafficking in Drugs Fentanyl (F-1)
Count 2: Possession of Drugs Fentanyl (F-1)

Austin Hilderbrand (Georgetown, Ohio)

Count 1: Trafficking in Drugs Methamphetamine (F-1)
Count 2: Trafficking in Drugs Methamphetamine (F-1)
Count 3: Possession of Drugs Methamphetamine (F-1)

Cassi Nicole Thomas (Amelia, Ohio)

Count 1: Trafficking in Drug Methamphetamine (F-1)
Count 2: Possession of Drug Methamphetamine (F-1)

These four suspects are currently being held in the Brown County Jail.