



"For Immediate Release"

Polk Sheriff's Office News Release

Sheriff Grady Judd

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Sheriff's Detectives and ATF Agents Make Several Arrests and Seizures

Polk County Sheriff's undercover narcotics detectives, with cooperation from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) and HIDTA task force agents, made 9 arrests and seized numerous firearms and illegal narcotics on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, in the Lakeland and Bartow areas. During a month-long investigation, undercover detectives purchased crack cocaine from 3 suspects, and firearms from 2 of those 3, on several different occasions.

Tuesday, February 14th, detectives arrested John Harris, who had sold 124 grams of crack cocaine during previous undercover "buys". At the time of his arrest, Harris was accompanied by Anthony Sanders and Ronsheika Tollie. Their information and charges are:

John Harris, DOB 6/11/73, of 2863 Dudley Drive in Bartow, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 2 counts Trafficking in Cocaine (over 28 grams), 6 counts Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell, 4 counts Possession of Paraphernalia, 1 count Possession of Marijuana, 1 count Possession of MDMA, 1 count Non-Payment of Child Support; **Anthony Sanders**, DOB 8/20/73, of 2953 Warfield Dr. in Bartow, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 1 count Possession of Marijuana, and 1 count Possession of Paraphernalia; and **Ronsheika Tollie**, DOB 12/14/81, of 3428 2nd Ave. in Bartow, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 1 count Violation of Probation.

Quentin Branch (DOB 7/17/86) was also under investigation by the aforementioned agencies, and on Tuesday, he was placed under arrest and taken into federal custody by ATF after they made undercover purchases of crack cocaine, and a 99mm and a Smith and Wesson 45 caliber handgun from him. At the time, he was accompanied by a 16-year-old boy who was also in possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia. The boy was taken to the Juvenile Assessment Center.

Also arrested on federal charges was **James Caton** (DOB 3/6/54), who sold to undercover detectives a short-barreled shotgun and crack cocaine. Detectives served a search warrant at his residence, 2540 McArthur Street in Lakeland on Tuesday, placing him under arrest along with the following individuals who were there: **Cynthi Fay Hobbs**, DOB 8/27/71, of 5273 Berkley Rd. in Auburndale, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 1 count Possession of Cocaine and 1 count Possession of Paraphernalia; **Francine Medders**, DOB 7/26/81, of 605 W. Crescent Dr. in Lakeland, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 1 count Possession of Cocaine, and 1 count Possession of Paraphernalia; and **David Lyons**, DOB 6/12/66, of 4205 SR 37 lot 12 in Lakeland, booked into the Polk County Jail and charged with 1 count Possession of Marijuana, and 1 count Possession of Paraphernalia.

For information about the two suspects taken into custody by ATF, please contact Agent Carlos Baixauli at 813-426-5222.



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