



**Press Release  
May 12, 2014**

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Athens – Today the Athens County Prosecutor, the Athens County Sheriff, the Athens City Police Chief and the Ohio University Police Chief announced the results of a joint operation to shut down an area drug ring that extends from Athens County through Columbus to the Detroit area. Five individuals have been indicted for racketeering charges for drug conspiracy. A total of eight individuals were arrested today or were indicted earlier in relation to the drug ring.

“This is a good day for law enforcement in Southeastern Ohio, and it’s a bad day for drug dealers and other criminals who want to do business in our region,” said Athens County Sheriff Rodney Smith.

“Crime does not respect jurisdictional boundaries,” said Athens Police Chief Tom Pyle. “Working together, we will systematically attack this problem at the source.”

“We must recognize there is a pipeline of drugs that extends from Columbus,” said Ohio University Police Chief Andrew Powers. “Taking a regional approach in sharing information and resources is the best opportunity to stop the flow.”

“We can’t let Route 33 become a corridor for Heroin and other dangerous drugs,” said Athens County Prosecutor Keller Blackburn. “We need to work together to shut down the supply, and work within our community on treatment efforts to shut down the demand.”

- **Derek James Gyure**, 26, of Glouster was arrested on May 6<sup>th</sup> following a four car chase through the Glouster area. Gyure, who was armed with a .40 caliber Glock handgun at the time of his arrest, was seen to have tossed a green ammunition box into the brush. The box was recovered and found to contain over 1,400 tablets that are believed to be Oxycodone 30 mg pills with a street value of \$42,000. The box also contained over \$17,000 in cash. A search of Gyure’s residence led to the seizure of a cache of firearms. Gyure was indicted on May 9<sup>th</sup> five Counts of F1 – F3 Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs; One Count of F1 Aggravated Possession of Drugs; One Count of F3 Tampering with Evidence; One Count of F3 Having a Weapons Under Disability; One

Count of F1 Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity; and One Count of F5 Possessing Criminal Tools. Gyure will be arraigned on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

- **John Casey Metcalf**, 22, of Glouster, was indicted on May 9<sup>th</sup> on four Counts of F2 –F3 Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs; one Count of F5 Possession of Marijuana; one Count of F3 Having Weapons While Under a Disability; one Count of F5 Possessing Criminal Tools; and one Count of F1 Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity. Metcalf will be arraigned on May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Billy Joe Haynes**, 25, of Athens, was indicted on May 9<sup>th</sup> on two Counts of F4 Trafficking in Cocaine and one Count of F3 Aggravated trafficking in Drugs. Haynes will be arraigned on May 21<sup>st</sup>
- **Kendra Rania Sharrer**, 22, of Glouster, was arrested on May 12<sup>th</sup> on one Count of F1 Aggravated Possession of Drugs; one Count of F3 Tampering with Evidence; and one F1 Count of Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity. Sharrer's arraignment will be scheduled in the future .
- **Tinkey L. Rutter**, 37, of Chauncey was arrested on May 12<sup>th</sup> on one Count of F4 Possession of Heroin. Rutter's arraignment will be scheduled in the future.
- **Bert C. Sharrer**, 45 of Jacksonville, was arrested on May 12<sup>th</sup> on two Counts of F3 Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs and one Count of F1 Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity. Sharrer's arraignment will be scheduled in the future.
- **Bert Sharrer, Jr.**, 18, of McConnelsville, was arrested on May 12<sup>th</sup> on one Count of F4 Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs and one Count of F1 Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity. Sharrer's arraignment will be scheduled in the future.
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- **Ryan Rutherford**, 36, of Nelsonville, was arrested on May 12<sup>th</sup> on one Count of F5 Aggravated Possession of Drugs. Rutherford's arraignment will be scheduled in the future.