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## **ACPO PRESS RELEASE**

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### ***Grand Jury Acts on Evidence from Joint Investigation into Glouster Drug Ring***

Today an Athens County Grand Jury acted on evidence stemming from an on-going investigation into a criminal drug enterprise operating out of Glouster. The investigation is a joint operation of the Athens County Sheriff's Office, the Athens Police Department, the Ohio University Police Department, the Athens County Prosecutor's Office and the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

Charles A. Wachenschwanz, 45, of Chauncey, was indicted today by the Grand Jury for illegal drugs and other crimes. The seven (7) count indictment returned against Wachenschwanz includes: one (1) second degree felony count of Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity; one (1) second degree felony count of Illegal Cultivation of Marijuana; one (1) third degree felony count of Endangering Children; and one (1) fifth degree felony count of Possessing Criminal Tools; one (1) third degree felony count of Having Weapons While Under Disability; one (1) first degree misdemeanor count of Possessing a Defaced Firearm; and one (1) first degree misdemeanor count of Petty Theft. His wife, Patsy Wachenschwanz, 50, was also indicted on one (1) third degree felony count of Endangering Children.

In addition to the Wachenschanz indictment, the Grand Jury also returned a superseding indictment against Derek James Gyure, adding to the charges that had been previously filed against Gyure for his leadership role in the Glouster drug ring. The Grand Jury returned a sixteen (16) count indictment against Gyure which includes:

- Count 1: Aggravated Possession of Drugs, a first degree felony
- Count 2: Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, a first degree felony
- Count 3: Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, a second degree felony
- Count 4: Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, a second degree felony
- Count 5: Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, a second degree felony
- Count 6: Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, a third degree felony
- Count 7: Tampering With Evidence, a third degree felony
- Count 8: Having Weapons While under Disability, a third degree felony
- Count 9: Engaging In a Pattern of Corrupt Activity, a first degree felony
- Count 10: Possessing Criminal Tools, a fifth degree felony
- Count 11: Money Laundering, a third degree felony
- Count 12: Tampering With Evidence, a third degree felony
- Count 13: Possessing Criminal Tools, a fifth degree felony

Count 14: Illegal Cultivation of Marihuana, a second degree felony

Count 15: Endangering Children, a third degree felony

Count 16: Intimidation of an Attorney, Victim or Witness in a Criminal Case,  
a felony of the third degree

The Grand Jury also returned a three (3) count superseding indictment against Kendra Sharrer, 22, of Gloucester, including: one (1) first degree felony count for Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activity; one (1) first degree felony count for Aggravated Possession of Drugs; and one (1) third degree felony count for Tampering with Evidence.

“This is far from over,” said Prosecutor Keller Blackburn. “Law enforcement will continue to seek out all who have been involved in this criminal enterprise.”

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