

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

NAME: News Editors/ News Directors
FROM: The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
DATE: June 15, 2009
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
Phone: 720-874-4165

MEDIA RELEASE

MARIJUANA GROW INVESTIGATION

On March 28th, 2009, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to 3282 Lenaview Circle, Bennett, Colorado on the report of a marijuana grow. The homeowner had been renting the property to another person, and called to report that he was at the house and believed there was marijuana growing inside.

After sheriff's deputies arrived, they found no one inside the house and notified the South Metro Drug Task Force (SMDTF). SMDTF obtained a search warrant for the home and discovered a sophisticated marijuana grow operation with over 100 marijuana plants inside.

During subsequent investigations, SMDTF have identified two suspects in the case. SMDTF believes that these suspects have been involved in utilizing expensive rental homes in the rural areas of Arapahoe, Douglas, and El Paso Counties to illegally grow marijuana. Evidence also shows that the individuals are using stolen identities to procure utilities at the grow locations.

COPLEN, Brian, Wayne
Age: 24



HARALDSON, Melissa, Violet
Age: 21



Please call Agent Matt Stoneberger at the South Metro Drug Task Force (720-748-2995) with any information regarding this case. Information can also be sent by e-mail to tips@smdtf.org. For further information please contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720-874-4165.

END



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