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Press Release

State and Federal law enforcement seize 340 lbs of marijuana, \$335,000

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Massachusetts State Police detectives from District Attorney William R. Keating's Drug Task Force and agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement, working with officers from Canton, MBTA and Quincy Police, seized a huge volume of marijuana and more than a third of a million dollars March 3, 2009.

"This comes as the result of a two month investigation," District Attorney Keating said. "Clearly, the quantity of cash seized and the large volume of drugs speaks to how large this alleged trafficking operation was."

The seizures were from locations on Mullen Ave. in Quincy and York Street in Canton.

"State Police officers attached to the Norfolk District Attorney's Office worked with agents from ICE and Quincy, MBTA and Canton police during the investigation and to seize these drugs and cash from multiple locations," District Attorney Keating said. "This is another occasion of successful cooperation between federal, state and local law enforcement. The investigation is continuing."

ICE Special Agent in Charge, Bruce M. Foucart concurred, saying: "This is a great example of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies utilizing combined resources to effectively dismantle drug trafficking organizations in the Massachusetts area."

Arrested by State Police were the following:

Tuan Ngoc Pham, DOB: 2/13/1960 of Mullin Ave in Quincy, who was charged with Trafficking in Marijuana and Conspiracy to Violate the Controlled Substance Act. He pled not guilty at a 2 p.m. arraignment in Quincy District Court and was ordered held on \$50,000 cash bail. He is due back in court on April 2, 2009.

Jeffrey Falcone, DOB: 2/10/1978 of Boylston St., Jamaica Plain, charged with Possession with Intent to distribute Class D (Marijuana); Possession of Class D; Speeding. He pled not guilty at a 2 p.m. arraignment in Quincy District Court and was ordered held on \$10,000 cash bail. He is due back in court on April 2, 2009.

Alexzndros Kostopoulos, DOB: 5/28/1979, of Colburn Lane in Abington, was charged with Trafficking a Class D substance (Marijuana) and Distribution of a Class D Substance. (Kostopoulos pled not guilty in Stoughton District Court at a 2 p.m. arraignment and was ordered held on \$100,000 cash bail.) He is due back in court March 31, 2009.

Any and all defendants mentioned are legally innocent until proven guilty.