



Office of Ross County Sheriff

GEORGE W. LAVENDER, JR., SHERIFF

ROSS COUNTY-CHILLICOTHE
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER
28 NORTH PAINT STREET
CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601

Emergency.....911
Service Calls.....773-1185
Civil Division & Records..773-1186
Sheriff773-1186
Jail & Jail Records773-1187
Detective Bureau773-1188
Fax(740) 773-1248

News Release

10/22/2013

Sheriff Lavender reports that his office along with agents from the U.S. 23 Task Force executed a search warrant on a residence in the 1100 block of Cooks Hill Road today. Members of the Sheriff's Office Emergency Response Team entered the residence today at approximately 1:00 p.m.

The residence was occupied by two adult females identified as 29 year old Letha Atencio and 25 year old Ashton Walls who were living at the residence. Sheriff's Office Detective's along with agents from the Task Force searched the residence and found many pieces of evidence consistent with the abuse of drugs as well as a large quantity of a substance presumed to be narcotics. All evidence was collected and processed to be sent to the laboratory for testing.

Both females were arrested and transported to the Ross County Jail on charges associated with the search warrant. Mrs. Atencio is also being held on a warrant out of Pike County. Further Felony Charges are pending lab results.

This search warrant is the second one in less than a week and Sheriff Lavender promises many more to come. They are the results of yearlong efforts by the Sheriff's Office to start a drug interdiction program. Sheriff Lavender has named the program **S.T.O.P.P.** (Stop Trafficking or Pay the Price) and is confident that it will put a big dent in the drug activity in Ross County.

Sheriff Lavender wants to remind the community to keep reporting all suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office at 740-773-1185 or Southern Ohio Crime Stoppers at **773-TIPS**
OR
800-222-TIPS.

