

## Women from Salem and Columbus among recent drug-related arrests recorded

Written by Administrator  
Monday, 25 April 2016 08:52 -

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Two women, one from Salem and a second from Columbus, were among people recently arrested for drug-related offenses.

Brittany E. Cheatham, 33, Salem, was taken into custody on April 15 in Scottsburg. Deputy Joe Johnson stopped a gold-colored Chrysler because of the expired license plate the car was displaying.

Deputy Johnson soon learned that the driver, Cheatham, had an expired driver license nor could she provide proof of insurance coverage. She was ticketed for the offenses and the car was impounded.

When the vehicle was inventoried, Deputy Johnson said three baggies of methamphetamine were located. Drug paraphernalia, Alprazolam pills and Suboxone strips were also found, the probable cause affidavit related.

Cheatham was charged in Scott Superior Court with possession of the methamphetamine and maintaining a common nuisance, both Level 6 felonies, and possession of a Schedule 1-4 controlled substance, a Class A misdemeanor.

Her initial court hearing was conducted on April 15. A preliminary not guilty plea was entered for her, and an initial jury trial date of July 14 was scheduled by Judge Marsha Owens Howser.

Cheatham's bond is \$15,000 if posted by a corporate surety bond or \$1,500 cash.

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Shortly after 2 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, Deputy Paul Clute stopped a Pontiac Grand Am for displaying a false or fictitious license plate at the Austin I-65 interchange.

Driver Mechelle A. Carroll, 46, Columbus, did not have a valid driver license and there was no proof of insurance for the car. Deputy Clute advised the woman that he was going to impound the car and asked her to step out of it.

Deputy Clute said he found a white pill laying on the car's center console. It turned out to be Methadone. An additional eight pills were found elsewhere as was a glass pipe coated with white residue.

The officer placed Carroll under arrest for the controlled substance and paraphernalia and also wrote her three tickets for infractions.

Carroll's initial hearing was held in Superior Court on Monday, April 18. With the preliminary not guilty plea entered, she was assigned an initial jury trial date of July 14 and the services of a public defender.

Carroll was released the same day after filing a cash bond of \$1,500.