

Five men charged in search warrant service in Austin

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Wednesday, 29 April 2009 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 29 April 2009 09:08

Five men now face criminal charges after Scottsburg police, with assistance from the Austin Police Department and the Sheriff's Department, served a search warrant on a Spicertown house alleged to be the site of drug dealing.

Those facing charges include the two residents of the house, Dennis Smith, 35, and Carl Vancleave, 34; Donald J. Barrett, 61, Austin; Matthew Miller, 28, Austin; and David Gwin, 56, Austin.

Around 5 p.m. on Friday, April 24, Scottsburg Patrolman Troy Ford was approached by a confidential informant who told Ford that Dennis Smith was selling drugs at his home on Tibbs Street. A "buy" was arranged, and \$40 worth of Oxycontin was allegedly purchased from Smith at the residence.

Using this action as a basis for a search warrant, Ptl. Ford contacted Scott County Prosecutor Jason Mount. The warrant was issued, and at 11 p.m., Ptl. Ford, Scottsburg patrolmen Steven Herald and Travis Rutherford, deputies Don Campbell and Joe Johnson and Austin Patrolman Shawn Hurt served the warrant.

They found Gwin on the front porch of the house and Miller and Vancleave inside. All were detained. Smith, officers learned, had driven to Scottsburg in an older model S10 pickup. While officers searched the premises, Deputy Campbell drove to Scottsburg to locate Smith.

Items confiscated by officers from the home included approximately 88 grams of marijuana from a room described as Smith's bedroom, as well as ten marijuana cigarettes and a glass pipe. In and around a coffee table in the living room, officers found two whole pills and several pieces of pills, all later identified as Suboxone, a Schedule 3 controlled substance; drug paraphernalia that included a scales, baggies, rolling papers, straws and the like.

Meanwhile, in Scottsburg, Deputy Campbell had located Smith in a parking lot with another, older man, later identified as Donald Barrett. The deputy said they appeared to be involved in a transaction of some sort. He approached the men and located on Smith over \$1,000 in cash, two \$20 bills marked as drug enforcement money, two plastic bottles containing a variety of pills including Oxycontin, Suboxone and Hydrocodone and several burned marijuana cigarettes.

In placing Barrett under arrest for interfering with law enforcement, Deputy Campbell said he found two hypodermic needles on him as well as \$461.50 in cash.

Smith was expected to have an initial court hearing in Circuit Court on Tuesday, April 28, to enter a plea on charges that include five counts of dealing in a Schedule 1-3 controlled substance, all Class B felonies, and two Class D felonies of dealing in marijuana over 30 grams and maintaining a common nuisance.

Barrett is charged in Superior Court with resisting law enforcement and possession of paraphernalia, both Class A misdemeanors, and disorderly conduct, a Class B misdemeanor.

Smith's roommate, Vancleave, and the two other men, were all charged with visiting a common nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor. Those charges were also filed in Superior Court.

None had yet had their initial hearings, according to a check of court records on Monday, April 27. Those hearings were expected to take place on April 28.