

**Oregon State Police  
Joint Committee on Implementing Measure 91  
Testimony 2-11-2015**

**CASE SUMMARIES**

***LISTED BELOW ARE MARIJUANA CASES INVESTIGATED BY MEMBERS OF THE OREGON STATE POLICE. THE CASES ARE SEPARATED INTO THREE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES.***

- ***CATEGORY #1 - Investigations were able to show a nexus to the Medical Marijuana Program in Oregon.***
- ***CATEGORY #2 - Investigations where seized product or U.S. Currency had a nexus to marijuana grown in Oregon and was either exported or intended to be exported out of Oregon. Investigations were unable to establish a nexus to the Medical Marijuana Program in Oregon.***
- ***CATEGORY #3 – “Parcel” investigations involving the shipments of marijuana and marijuana related currency.***

**CATEGORY #1 – INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM:**

On 10-1-2013, an Oregon State Police Detective was contacted by the Michigan State Police. The Michigan State Police had reportedly arrested an Oregon resident for transporting 70 pounds of marijuana. An investigation was conducted and revealed the residence, located in southern Oregon was found to be a medical marijuana grow site. One suspect was cited for Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and approximately 2 pounds of dried, processed marijuana was seized. Two other suspects at the residence were arrested on outstanding warrants and an additional suspect was cited and released for a prior theft crime. Evidence from the follow-up investigation revealed that the 70 pounds of marijuana seized by the Michigan State Police was from the medical marijuana grow site in Oregon.

On 10-25-2013, an Oregon State Police Patrol Trooper conducted a traffic stop and learned the vehicle operator had a medical marijuana grow located nearby. A consent search of the grow site revealed the suspect was 25.5 pounds of marijuana over his legal Oregon Medical Marijuana Program amounts. The suspect was also found to be unlawfully selling his medical marijuana through the mail to individuals in other states. The 25.5 pounds of dried marijuana, three marijuana plants, and a 20 gauge shotgun were seized from the residence. The suspect was cited for Unlawful Possession, Manufacture, and Delivery of Marijuana.

On 6-25-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel interdiction. \$4,000.00 in U.S. currency was seized from a suspicious package coming from Perth Amboy, New Jersey to a medical marijuana grow site in southern Oregon.

On 8-26-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers stopped a vehicle traveling northbound on Highway 140 east through Lake County, Oregon. An Oregon State Police K-9 alerted to the vehicle. A search of the

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vehicle revealed 9.9 pounds of marijuana, and approximately a 1/2 pound of marijuana oil. The suspects admitted to traveling from southern Oregon to Chicago, Illinois, to sell the marijuana and marijuana oil for profit. The driver and passenger were arrested for unlawful Possession and Delivery of Marijuana.

Information was developed during the investigation that lead Oregon State Police Detectives to a medical marijuana grow site in southern Oregon. A search warrant was served and 66 large marijuana plants and two additional suspects were located and arrested.

On 9-3- 2014, Oregon State Police Detectives served a search warrant on an a medical marijuana grow site in southern Oregon. The search warrant was for an overage of marijuana plants. Forty-Nine marijuana plants and approximately 20 pounds of processed marijuana was seized during the search warrant service. Evidence was found that the suspect had previously been sending marijuana in the mail to multiple people. The suspect admitted to having shipped packages of marijuana to different places along the west coast. The suspect was arrested for Unlawful Possession, Manufacture, and Delivery of Marijuana.

On 9-8-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives received information about an out of compliance medical marijuana grow site in southern Oregon. The residence was a grow site for three medical marijuana patients, which would allow up to 18 mature marijuana plants and 7.5 pounds of marijuana. Surveillance of the residence revealed there were 49 mature marijuana plants present.

Oregon State Police Detectives drafted a search warrant for the property. As a result, two arrests were made for the Unlawful Possession, Manufacture, and Delivery of Marijuana. Twenty pounds of excess usable marijuana was seized along with the 49 plants.

Oregon State Police Detectives interviewed the suspects, which revealed that they had been shipping marijuana out of the state via FedEx for the last several years. Suspects indicated that they would ship between 1-10 pound packages of marijuana on a regular basis. They said they could make up to triple the profit selling medical marijuana out of state versus in Oregon.

On 9-20-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) with a traffic stop on an individual that was traveling to California to pick up 100 pounds of marijuana. The individual was in possession of \$30,000.00 in U.S. currency. He was involved in a medical marijuana grow site in southern Oregon and was responsible for distributing marijuana to unknown states. The subject was purchasing marijuana to sell until his was harvested and ready to sell.

On 10-27-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers stopped a vehicle for a speed violation. An Oregon State Police K-9 was called to the scene of the stop and alerted to the vehicle. A search of the vehicle revealed 18 pounds of marijuana, 3 pounds of marijuana oil, and a variety of marijuana candies. Oregon State Police Detectives responded to assist in the investigation.

Detectives interviewed the three suspects and all three admitted that they were headed to Utah to sell the marijuana and marijuana products for profit. All three admitted they had spent the last few weeks

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in southern Oregon working at a medical marijuana grow site. They said they could triple their profit selling the marijuana in Utah instead of Oregon.

During the investigation, the suspects provided information that lead Oregon State Police Detectives to the two medical marijuana grow sites where the three had been working.

Oregon State Police Detectives drafted search warrants for the grow sites and executed the search warrants.

At the first location, three people were arrested and charged with Unlawful Delivery, Possession, and Manufacture of Marijuana. Two children were taken into Department of Human Services child services custody due to inhumane living conditions. Overall, 27 mature marijuana plants were seized, along with over 90 pounds of cut and processed marijuana. This grow site had four Oregon Medical Marijuana Program cards for the property, which would allow for 24 plants and 6 pounds of marijuana.

At the second location, two people were arrested who were living at the grow site, and charged with Unlawful Possession, Manufacture, and Delivery of Marijuana, and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon. A total of two pistols, one rifle, and two shotguns were seized. Neither suspect had an Oregon Medical Marijuana Program card and there were no Oregon Medical Marijuana Program cards at the property. Most of the marijuana plants were harvested. Five pounds of marijuana was seized, and five mature marijuana plants were seized. No medical marijuana plants were discovered at the site. Suspect interviews revealed that the bulk marijuana had been transported to another residence.

Oregon State Police Detectives drafted and served a search warrant addendum for the residence where the bulk marijuana had been transported. Subsequently, two people were arrested and charged with Unlawful Possession, Delivery, and Manufacture of Marijuana. Over 100 pounds of marijuana was seized from the residence, along with one pistol and one shotgun from the marijuana drying room. There were no Oregon Medical Marijuana cards located at the residence.

In this case, all of the mentioned suspects had been Utah residents and co-conspirators. They were all involved in the manufacture and delivery of medical marijuana from Oregon to Utah for profit. They admitted to shipping marijuana to Utah during the last two harvest seasons.

On 1-6-2015, Oregon State Police Troopers stopped a vehicle and a consent search of the vehicle revealed 11 Adderall pills and \$18,833.00 in U.S. currency concealed in socks in the trunk of the vehicle. Oregon State Police Troopers on scene could smell the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. An Oregon State Police K-9 alerted to the currency during a controlled sniff.

Oregon State Police Detectives responded to the scene and interviewed the driver in the jail. The driver admitted to traveling to southern Oregon multiple times in the past and staying for weeks or months at a time. The driver said he would mail bulk marijuana in 1-2 pound packages from southern Oregon to Iowa. The driver told Oregon State Police Detectives that he had done this countless times in the past. He said the currency was proceeds from selling Oregon medical marijuana from southern Oregon to

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customers in Iowa City, Iowa. The driver told Detectives that just about everyone he knows and associates with in southern Oregon sells medical marijuana out of state, and told Detectives that the easiest and safest way to ship marijuana is via the United States Postal Service. He said he would send out 3-4 packages containing medical marijuana to Iowa per week.

**CATEGORY #2 – MARIJUANA OR U.S. CURRENCY DIVERTED OR INTERCEPTED FROM OTHER STATES:**

On 1-2-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives conducted an investigation in which a male subject from Oakland, California came to southern Oregon to purchase 40 pounds of marijuana to take back to California. After the exchange, Oregon State Police Detectives arrested the subjects and seized \$38,600.00 in U.S. currency.

On 1-16-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives conducted an investigation in which a male subject from Redmond, California came to southern Oregon to purchase 10 pounds of marijuana. After the marijuana exchange, Oregon State Police Detectives arrested the subject and seized 30 pounds of marijuana along with \$14,300.00 in U.S. currency. The subject was taking the marijuana back to California to sell.

On 1-25-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives executed a search warrant at a motel in southern Oregon and seized 36 pounds of marijuana, a pistol, Methamphetamine and Heroin. One of the suspects claimed they were exchanging methamphetamine for marijuana in Oregon to take it back to southern California.

On 9-1-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives served a search warrant in southern Oregon as part of a follow up investigation stemming from a traffic stop in Oregon in which Oregon State Police Troopers seized approximately 9 pounds of marijuana from two brothers. The marijuana was destined for Chicago, Illinois. Seized from the search warrant were 66 mature marijuana plants, approximately 30 pounds of marijuana product, and \$1,000.00 in U.S. currency.

On 9-10-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives contacted a felon (without an Oregon Medical Marijuana Program card) after reports of gunfire at his property. Seized were 89 mature marijuana plants and a .45 pistol. The suspect claimed he moved to Oregon from California to grow marijuana and live off the money he made selling marijuana to the dispensaries in California. The subject did not possess an Oregon Medical Marijuana card.

On 10-15-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers stopped a vehicle occupied by a male subject near southern Oregon. Oregon State Police Detectives determined the subject was trimming marijuana for his brother, who was operating his marijuana growing operation unlawfully. Detectives contacted a residence in southern Oregon and discovered four other subjects on the property unlawfully manufacturing marijuana. Written consent to search the property was obtained that resulted in the

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seizure of 178 pounds of marijuana and two firearms. The marijuana was destined to undisclosed states.

On 10-16-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers stopped a marijuana trimmer near southern Oregon. The trimmer admitted he was being paid to trim marijuana for a friend and that he did not have a medical marijuana card. The trimmer believed there were approximately 100-pounds of processed marijuana on the property. Oregon State Police Troopers and Detectives contacted the cooperative property owner who admitted he was growing the marijuana and selling it to people in Eugene, Oregon and Portland/Vancouver, Washington for profit (\$1000 per pound). Seized were 48 budding marijuana plants/trees and approximately 119.6 pounds of processed marijuana bud.

On 10-16-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers contacted two male subjects from New York pushing a vehicle with a New York registration. Upon contact, the male passenger walked away. An Oregon State Police Trooper observed a large amount of hash in an open bag in the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle revealed hash, heroin, and metal knuckles. The male subject told an Oregon State Police Detective where the motorhome was in southern Oregon that he obtained the narcotics. The male subject in the motorhome (from Pennsylvania) was contacted. One pound of marijuana, one-half ounce of methamphetamine, heroin, scales and a firearm were seized from the motorhome.

On 12-9-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers intercepted a package containing marijuana that was being shipped to Tennessee. An Oregon State Police Detective notified Drug Task Force members in Tennessee who was able to intercept other packages sent from the same suspects. Oregon State Police Detectives worked with the Tennessee investigators and multiple search warrants were served and over 140 pounds of marijuana was seized at different locations in Tennessee.

**CATEGORY #3 – INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING PARCELS:**

On 12-19-2013, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted U.S. Postal Inspectors with the delivery of a suspicious parcel to an address in southern Oregon. Twelve bundles totaling \$11,700.00 of U.S. currency were found in the mail package, which had been sent from Delaware to Oregon. The currency was seized along with approximately 4 ounces of marijuana that was found inside the residence. Two suspects were cited and released.

On 1-15-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with the seizure of U.S. currency from the illegal distribution of marijuana to Illinois and Oklahoma.

On 1-23-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$4,800.00 in U.S. currency was seized from the suspect for the illegal distribution of marijuana to his son-in-law in Indiana.

On 2-3-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a UPS Security Officer with an outbound suspicious parcel from southern Oregon to New Canaan, Connecticut. The UPS Employee opened the parcel per their protocol and located four pounds of processed marijuana bud.

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On 2-6-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$3,600.00 in U.S. currency was seized from the suspect for the illegal distribution of marijuana to Pennsylvania.

On 2-20-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$4,000.00 in U.S. currency was seized from the suspect for the illegal distribution of marijuana to Texas.

On 2-27-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the investigation, 6 pounds of marijuana was seized en route to Delaware.

On 7-17-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$9,900.00 U.S. currency was seized from the suspect for the illegal distribution of marijuana to Alaska.

On 9-11-2014, Oregon State Police Troopers seized 2 pounds of marijuana on an I-5 traffic stop. United States Postal Service receipts were found on the suspect during his arrest. The suspect was not a medical marijuana card holder but was found to be living in Oregon. An Oregon State Police Detective spoke to detectives in California that advised the suspect has been known to send packages of marijuana through mail to other states. An Oregon State Police Detective made referrals to partner agencies in California, but detectives were unable to intercept the packages in time to conduct further investigations.

On 10-16-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$1,950.00 U.S. currency was seized from the illegal distribution of marijuana to Indiana.

On 10-17-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with contacting a female as she attempted to send a package containing approximately 7 pounds of marijuana through a post office. The suspect said she was paid \$10 from an unknown source to mail the package to Alaska.

On 10-22-2014, an Oregon State Police Detective assisted a partner agency with a traffic stop that resulted in the seizure of 20 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was packaged to be shipped in the mail. A United States Postal Service receipt was located for a package the suspects had shipped to Jackson, Mississippi. A Mississippi Postal Inspector located the shipped package and it was seized. A search warrant, approximately 6 pounds of marijuana was found inside.

On 11-19-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$1,950.00 U.S. currency was seized from the illegal distribution of marijuana to Tennessee.

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On 11-19-2014, Oregon State Police Detectives assisted a United States Postal Inspector with a parcel case in southern Oregon. As a result of the subsequent investigation, \$10,000.00 U.S. currency was seized from the suspect for the illegal distribution of marijuana to Nebraska.

**Total Number of Marijuana cases investigated by OSP/ DES and out of those total cases, the number of cases with a nexus to Medical Marijuana**

	Marijuana Cases	Medical Marijuana Cases
2014	239	64
2013	272	89
2012	327	128

\*Source: DES Statistics database – 2/11/2015