

# United States Marshals Service



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **U.S. Marshals Arrest Portland DEA Drug Fugitive in Los Angeles**

During the evening of April 10th, 2007, the U.S. Marshals Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force arrested Peter GEBHART, age 38, with assistance from Oregon DEA and the Oregon U.S. Marshals HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Fugitive Task Force.

GEBHART's residence, located in Covina, California, was searched during the early hours of April 11th. U.S. Marshals and DEA seized more than \$114,000 in U.S. currency. Peter GEBHART appeared in the U.S. District court in Los Angeles where U.S. Magistrate Judge Margaret A. Nagle ordered him detained pending a further hearing on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Additional assets are still under investigation.

Peter GEBHART was indicted by an Oregon federal grand jury on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 for the alleged distribution of approximately 100 kilograms of marijuana and a minimum of 50 lbs. of ephedrine. GEBHART is a resident alien with an Austria passport and has a history of travel to Canada, Europe, and Russia. The drug trafficking organization was unique because of their smuggling method which utilized transport "coffins" which were hollow compartments secreted on lumber loads that were driven from Canada to the U.S. Past money seizures allegedly associated with GEBHART included \$120,000 in U.S. currency, on 11/27/02, in Bellingham, WA and \$206,965 in U.S. currency, on 11/12/03, in Los Angeles, CA.

Prior to GEBHART's arrest, co-defendant, Huyen Cong was arrested on March 25<sup>th</sup> by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) on a DEA Provisional Arrest Warrant during her travel from Vietnam into Canada. With GEBHART's capture, all 10 indicted co-conspirators are now in custody.

The U.S. Marshals Service is the nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency. Annually, U.S. Marshals arrest more than 50 percent of all federal fugitives and serve more federal warrants than all other federal law enforcement agencies combined. Last year, U.S. Marshals cleared over 38,000 federal fugitive warrants and cleared an additional 45,000 state and local fugitive warrants through USMS co-operative task forces. For more information go to [www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov)