



ATF News

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ATF, ASCENSION SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARREST LOCAL MAN ON FIREARMS AND NARCOTICS CHARGES

SORRENTO, La. – A federal-state-local law enforcement task force has arrested Michael A. Watson of Sorrento on federal firearms and narcotics charges.

Members of the task force arrested Watson, 41, of 6219 John Tullier Street in Sorrento, Nov. 12 as he exited his vehicle near his residence.

In October, during a joint narcotics investigation conducted by federal state and local law enforcement officers, information was developed that Watson, a convicted felon, was attempting to purchase a firearm to protect his illegal narcotics business.

On Nov. 12, Watson met with an undercover officer and purchased a Desert Eagle .50 caliber pistol. Watson exchanged 24 units of Oxycontin for the firearm. Subsequent to the purchase, ATF Special Agents, and Ascension Sheriff Narcotic Officers arrested Watson in his vehicle.

Seized pursuant to a search of Watson's vehicle and residence were five firearms, more than 500 rounds of various caliber ammunition, and the following controlled substances: 30 units of hydrocone, 30 units of alprazolam, one unit of oxycodone, 27 units of meperidine, 17 units of roxycodone, and a small amount of suspected marijuana.

ATF, Ascension Parish Sheriff Office, Assumption Parish Sheriff Office and the DEA Drug Task Force consisting of the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, West Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, and Louisiana State Alcohol Beverage Control Board Officers all participated in the investigation.

ATF New Orleans Special Agent in Charge Mark Chait stated, " This is a perfect example of a cooperative law enforcement effort to deal with habitual criminals and to make the streets of our communities safer."

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