

MORENO VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Press Release

Date/Time Written: October 28, 2011 /2:30 PM
Type of Incident: Narcotic Search Warrant suspects arrested
Date/Time of Incident: October 27, 2011 / 2:00 PM
Location of Incident: K&M Barbershop 24135 Sunnymead Blvd, Moreno Valley
Reporting Officer: Sergeant Tim Martin
File Number: MV113000079

During the past year the Moreno Valley Police Department has received numerous complaints from businesses, citizens and elected officials about narcotic and gang activity coming from inside and around K & M Barbershop located at 24135 Sunnymead Boulevard, Moreno Valley.

An eight month investigation was conducted by the Moreno Valley Police Department Special Enforcement Team in conjunction with agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). Undercover agents made 12 narcotic buys from inside and directly outside K & M Barbershop. The culmination of these buys resulted in Riverside County Superior Court issuing seven arrest warrants for individuals selling narcotics and using a place of business to sale narcotics. The parking lot of the location was also the scene of a shooting death in 2008, which started with a physical altercation in front of the barbershop.

On Thursday, October 27, 2011, at about 2:00 PM, officers from the Moreno Valley Police Department's Special Enforcement Team, Problem Oriented Police Team, and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) served two search warrants. The first search warrant was served at the barbershop and the second search warrant was served at the barbershop owner's residence, located at the 12000 block of Paseo Del Sol, Moreno Valley.

During a search of the business and residence, officers located two unregistered loaded handguns, brass knuckles, billy club, and 8.4 grams of marijuana.

A total of 10 suspects were arrested at the barbershop, which included four for the arrest warrants issued by the court. The following suspects were booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center.

- Kevin White – K & M Barbershop owner (38 years) of Moreno Valley. Arrested for felon in possession of a firearm, maintaining a business to sale narcotics, and possession of a dangerous weapon.

- Antoine Powell (31 years) of Moreno Valley. Arrested for felon in possession of a firearm, and possession of marijuana for sale.
- Kevin Pearson (38 years) of San Bernardino. Arrested for possession of cocaine for sale.
- L.C. Whitehorn (28 years) of Moreno Valley. Arrested for possession of a dangerous weapon.
- Donzell Tate (42 years) of Moreno Valley. Arrested for possession of cocaine for sale.

Five additional subjects were arrested for various misdemeanor warrants.

On October 28, 2011, an additional suspect related to the barbershop, Esther Grant, (54 years) of Hemet, was taken into custody for possession of cocaine for sale.

City of Moreno Valley Code Enforcement, Fire Marshall, and Building and Safety, found numerous code violations for K & M Barbershop. The barbershop's power was turned off, and the business was deemed to be unable to occupy.

"ATF's partnership with the Moreno Valley Police Department ensures that the community is getting another investigative option when dealing with their criminal element," said John A. Torres, Special Agent in Charge of ATF Los Angeles. "Operation K & M is just one example of the excellent work MVPD and ATF has done to combat violent crime and narcotics in the city."

The Moreno Valley Police Department has a "Zero Tolerance" policy toward illicit narcotic activity and will be vigilant in investigating all narcotic crimes. The Police Department encourages citizens and business owners to report any narcotic activity. The Police Department is asking anyone with information about illicit narcotic activity to contact the Moreno Valley Police Department at 951-247-8700.