



NEWS RELEASE

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32 People Arrested in North Metro Drug Ring

The 17th Judicial District Attorney's Office, North Metro Task Force and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration jointly announced today the arrest of 32 individuals in a large methamphetamine and cocaine trafficking ring operating throughout the metro area.

The arrests are the culmination of Operation Silence, a year-long investigation by numerous law enforcement agencies into a large drug ring operating in Adams County and the north metro area. The take-down targeted 17 locations in Northglenn, Thornton, Commerce City, Arvada, Denver and unincorporated Adams and Arapahoe counties. SWAT teams from a number of local law enforcement agencies were involved in the operation which began at about 6 a.m. today.

Seven pounds of methamphetamine, three pounds of cocaine, two pounds of heroin and eight firearms were recovered as a result of the take-down. The investigation is continuing and further arrests will be made.

"This was a very dangerous group of individuals, and I am very thankful that no one was injured in the successful take-down of this group," said District Attorney Dave Young.

The drug ring's activity was centered in Adams County and the north metro area but impacted communities throughout the Denver metro area, said Sgt. Jim Gerhardt of the North Metro Task Force.

"We're very pleased to have removed these dangerous people from the community," Gerhardt said. "The Denver metro area is safer today because of these arrests and we are very happy about that."

DEA Special Agent in Charge in Charge, Barbra M. Roach stated that she was "very pleased with this morning's professionally executed operations", adding "this outstanding effort by our law enforcement partners has cutoff numerous avenues of illicit income fueling foreign-based drug cartels."

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