

U.S. MARSHALS OPERATION



NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

W/WI

Emily Krueger, Deputy U.S. Marshal
(608) 661-8300

USMS Headquarters Public Affairs (202) 307-9065

July 9, 2009

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE OPERATION FALCON NETS 86 ARRESTS

Madison, WI – Following a five-year tradition of success in its national efforts, the U.S. Marshals Service locally conducted another successful Operation FALCON – **F**ederal and **L**ocal **C**ops **O**rganized **N**ationally. Led by the U.S. Marshals, Operation FALCON 2009 netted 86 arrests within the Western District of Wisconsin in June.

Operation FALCON – Madison combined the collective efforts of multiple law enforcement agencies in one of the area's largest-ever fugitive initiatives, focusing on capturing individuals wanted on felony charges including sexual predators and fugitives wanted for crimes of violence. Over the course of the 5-day operation, Deputy U.S. Marshals, teamed with federal, state and local law enforcement partners, arrested 86 fugitives in Dane, Rock and Columbia counties and cleared 211 warrants. Among the 211 warrants cleared, 4 sex offenders, 7 individuals with weapons charges and 11 child/domestic crime offenders were arrested.

Some of the highlighted arrests include, Francisco J. VAZQUEZ-VERA who was arrested Monday, June 22 after being on the run for 3 years. VAZQUEZ-VERA is charged with Attempted 1st-Degree Intentional Homicide, stemming from an incident in the village of Lake Delton where he allegedly pepper sprayed and stabbed a victim.

On Thursday, June 25, Quincy HEVEL was arrested in Janesville. HEVEL is featured on billboards in the Janesville area due to the numerous warrants against him. HEVEL's 18 outstanding warrants include criminal damage, bail jumping, weapons offense, and heroin. Numerous community tips led to his arrest.

Stevie TRIPLET, the suspect who is allegedly responsible for the shooting on Hammersly Road in Madison on Fathers Day was arrested on

Tuesday, June 23. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Marshals Service, and Madison Police Department all participated in this investigation. TRIPLETT, known by his street name as “Soul” or “Shawn-Don” is also suspected as being the shooter in 2 other cases as well. The .45 caliber that was used in the shooting on Fathers Day was recovered at the residence where TRIPLETT was arrested.

According to U.S. Marshal Steve Fitzgerald, one of the positive aspects of Operation Falcon is the cooperation between all of the different law enforcement agencies working for one common goal; to make our community safer. Today, the challenges in law enforcement can be overwhelming and all of us working together in Operation Falcon will make our communities in Wisconsin a safer place to live.

Operation FALCON – Madison consisted of approximately 50 federal, state and local law enforcement officers, making up seven separate arrest teams working throughout the operation. Each participating local officer was sworn in as a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal immediately prior to the start of this operation. This special authority empowers them to cross traditional lines of jurisdiction to track down and arrest targeted fugitives throughout the operation.

“The goal of Operation FALCON is simple – to make communities safer,” said John F. Clark, Director of the U.S. Marshals Service. “Each time we wrap up a FALCON operation in any location, there are less dangerous individuals – and fewer threats to the community – than before we arrived there. That is very gratifying.”

Agencies contributing to Operation FALCON – Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Baraboo Police Department, U.S. Border Patrol, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, (BICE), Columbia County Sheriffs Office, Dane County Sheriffs Office, Fitchburg Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Janesville Police Department, Madison Police Department, U.S. Marshals Service, Oregon Police Department, Rock County Sheriffs Office, Sauk County Sheriffs Office, Sun Prairie Police Department, Town of Madison Police Department, Verona Police Department, Waunakee Police Department, Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Wisconsin Department of Justice, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Since its inception in 2005, Operation FALCON has made 91,086 arrests and cleared 117,874 warrants. It continues to be the largest and most successful fugitive apprehension effort in U.S. Marshals history.

For more information, and photos go to <http://www.usmarshals.gov/falcon09/index.html>

###

America’s Oldest Federal Law Enforcement Agency

www.usmarshals.gov