

## **COPS SEIZE \$633,000 IN DRUG RAID AGENTS CLAIM LOSS HELPS "SHUT OFF PIPELINE'**

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Federal and local **drug** authorities said Thursday they confiscated \$ **633** ,181 **in** receipts from heroin sales **in** a **raid** on a northwest Detroit home Wednesday night

No one was arrested **in** the 9:30 p.m. **raid** at the house **in** the 18700 block of Tracey near W. Seven Mile and Schaefer and no **drugs** were confiscated, according to Robert DeFauw, agent **in** charge of the Detroit office of the **Drug** Enforcement Administration.

"But we have numerous warrants and we anticipate arrests **in** the near future," he said.

A similar **raid** May 18 at what DeFauw called a **drug** money "stash house" **in** the Jeffersonian Apartments on E. Jefferson netted \$800,521 **in** cash, he said. "That was the largest **raid** of its kind **in** the history of the Detroit DEA office," he said.

"With **raids** like these, we're leapfrogging the street-level **drug** operations to shut off the **drug** pipeline and starve out the courier operations," DeFauw said.

WEDNESDAY'S **RAID** was part of a year-long, on-going investigation of major heroin networks **in** the Detroit area, he said.

"We think these **raids** will have a devastating, crippling, disruptive effect on the flow of **drugs** **in** this area," he said.

Federal agents using four money-counting machines worked from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday counting stacks of money from the latest **raid** . Most of it was **in** small bills, DeFauw said.

"We found three 2 1/2-by-2-foot safes full of money, more **in** a plastic trash bag **in** the basement and still more under a chest of drawers **in** a bedroom," DeFauw said.

Inspector Ray Murray of the Detroit police narcotics section said officers found another floor safe under a trapdoor at the bottom of the basement stairwell. It was empty, he said.

THE SEARCH WARRANT authorizing Wednesday night's **raid** was signed by federal Magistrate Barbara Hackett and was sealed, making its contents unavailable to the public.

Also confiscated **in** the **raid** were a loaded 12-gauge shotgun with a pistol grip and modified to hold extra shells, a loaded .38 automatic Colt Combat Commander handgun, a loaded five- shot .38 Smith & Wesson revolver and several leg and shoulder holsters.

Officers also confiscated diamond-encrusted gold and platinum jewelry, including a man's gold ring with four diamonds DeFauw estimated to be two to 2 1/2 carats each and a solid gold watch made from a \$20 gold piece.

DeFauw and Murray wouldn't say who owned the house on Tracey but said it was being watched and that arrests were expected soon.

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