

Two Arrested in La Pine Drug Bust

by Richard Burton

A La Pine man and his life-in girlfriend were arrested Monday night on various drug and weapons charges after being identified by the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement (CODE) team as being "large-scale dealers" of methamphetamine in the Deschutes County Area.

Several firearms, meth, percocet, valium, marijuana, mushrooms, and cash were seized during execution of a search warrant at the La Pine home of Vance Laroy Weige, 53, and Lisa Kay Baisley, 38, said Lt. Jim Porter.

Cash, drugs, and firearms were seized in Monday's drug raid on a La Pine residence. Inset: (top) Vance Laroy Weige, (bottom) Lisa Kay Baisley. Photos provided by CODE and DCJ.CODE detectives placed Baisley under surveillance on December 18 after they utilized various investigative techniques during the past month that turned up information suggesting she was preparing to receive a large shipment of methamphetamine.

At about 5 p.m. Monday, Baisley was taken into custody near the intersection of O.B. Riley Road and Third Street in Bend after she was observed delivering drugs to an unidentified person. When detectives searched her vehicle, they found she was carrying a loaded .40 caliber pistol that was concealed in a bag, and previously reported stolen. Detectives also seized an additional 7.5 ounces of meth that was in Baisley's possession.

Following an interview with Baisley, CODE detectives applied for and received a search warrant for the couple's residence at 16543 Daisy Place in La Pine.

About 6:30 p.m. and prior to execution of the search warrant, Deschutes County Sheriffs Department patrol officers working with CODE Detectives took Weige into custody at the La Pine residence.

About 2 ½ hours later, detectives and deputies entered the home in execution of the warrant and found that Weige had literally been “in the midst” of using a vacuum sealing machine to repackage large quantities of meth into smaller quantities for resale when he was arrested, said Lt. Porter.

Evidence seized during the search included 1 ½ pounds of meth, over 100 tablets each of percocet and valium, marijuana, illegal mushrooms, \$5300 in cash, two loaded handguns, one unloaded handgun, an unloaded rifle, and a radio scanner set to monitor the sheriff’s department dispatch frequency.

Additionally, detectives found several sections of capped PVC piping with threaded ends, magnets, and Velcro tape. Lt. Porter said these items are often used to make airtight containers that attach to the underside of vehicles, a method commonly used by drug smugglers to transport illegal drugs undetected.

A review of Weige’s criminal arrest history revealed that with his previous felony conviction in Oregon, he is prohibited from possessing firearms.

Both suspects were lodged in the Deschutes County Jail on charges including possession, manufacturing, and delivery of methamphetamine; and related conspiracy charges. Weige also has been charged with three counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm, and Baisley will face an additional single count for carrying a concealed handgun.

The meth seized from this incident has a street value of over \$67,000, said Porter, and is enough for 1300 user-doses. So far this year, CODE has seized more than 21 pounds of high-quality methamphetamine, with a total street value of over \$920,000.

The CODE Team is a multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force comprised of detectives from all Central Oregon law enforcement agencies including: Bend Police Department, Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office, Redmond Police Department, Crook County Sheriff’s Office, Prineville Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriffs Department, Oregon State Police, United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA),

Deschutes County District Attorney, and the Oregon National Guard.

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