

Three jailed in Bend meth bust

by Cheryl McDermott

Two men and a woman were arrested in northeast Bend Thursday evening, the latest in an ongoing concentrated effort by drug enforcement detectives to crack down on methamphetamine sales in Central Oregon.

During the past month, detectives from the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement (CODE) team received credible information that Rhonda Mae Nicoll Galla, a 46-year old Bend woman residing at 9675 Cheyenne Road, was involved in meth sales in the Bend area, Lt. Jim Porter said.

(L-R) Ivan Rodriguez Ocompo, Rhonda Mae Nicoll Galla, Arthur Alfredo Lauriana © DCJ Photos
Detectives began monitoring Galla's activities, and about 5:30 p.m. on February 8 she was observed making what appeared to be a drug buy on Division Street, south of Reed Market Road.

Bend Police conducted a traffic stop on Galla's vehicle near Third Street and Franklin Blvd., Porter said, and about one-half ounce of crystal methamphetamine was seized during a search. The seized drugs have an estimated street value of \$600, he added.

At about the same time, CODE detectives stopped the other vehicle associated with the suspected drug buy, and arrested the occupants © Ivan Rodriguez Ocompo, 26, and Arthur Alfredo Lauriana, 19 © both Bend residents living at 19952 Ashwood Drive. Ocompo was allegedly in possession of \$ 1,605, said the lieutenant, some actually in his hand at the time of the stop.

All three suspects were taken into custody and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail, Lt. Porter said.

Galla is charged with possession, delivery, and manufacture of a controlled substance (meth). She also is

being held on two outstanding warrants -- a bench warrant for violation of a release agreement on a previous charge for drug possession, and a contempt of court charge for failing to appear in a Multnomah County court proceeding.

Ocompo is charged with possession, delivery and manufacture of meth; and Lauriana is held for conspiracy of possession, delivery and manufacture of a controlled substance.

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