

Prineville raid leads to two arrests, seizure of firearms, meth

by Cheryl McDermott

Drug agents arrested two transients staying at a friend's apartment in Prineville Tuesday evening after detectives raided the place and searched the couple's car, finding crystal meth, cash, six rifles, and narcotics paraphernalia in the vehicle, authorities reported.

ABOVE: Items seized during execution of search warrants included six rifles, crystal meth, cash, and narcotics paraphernalia (CODE photo). BELOW: Garry Bellah and Cori Casey (CCJ photos) Central Oregon Drug Enforcement (CODE) team detectives received information during the past month that Garry Bellah, 32, and Cori Casey, 26, were selling meth in the Prineville area, Deschutes County Sheriff's detective Sgt. Scott Shelton -- "working with CODE -- said.

Using information gathered during surveillance and other investigative means, detectives determined Bellah and Casey were staying with a friend in an apartment on Northeast Ridgeview Court, Shelton said, making it possible to obtain a search warrant for the apartment and the couple's vehicle.

About 8:20 p.m., CODE detectives assisted by Prineville Police officers and Crook County Sheriff's deputies served the search warrants on the apartment, and also on the white 1997 Nissan Sentra. The Sentra was stopped and searched at near Highway 26 and Woodward Road, an area about six miles northwest of Prineville, the sergeant said.

During the search of the vehicle, Shelton said detectives discovered a small amount of crystal methamphetamine, weight scales, \$ 350 in cash, six rifles, and narcotics paraphernalia.

Bellah and Casey were taken into custody and lodged in the Crook County Jail. Both suspects are charged with possession and delivery of methamphetamine, and six counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm. In addition, Shelton said, Bellah is charged with identity theft, which stems from identification belonging to a relative that was in his possession.

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