

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 21, 2009

Pine Ridge Drug Arrests

Sheriff Jimmy Harris states as follows:

On the evening of January 20, 2009, Sheriff's Office Deputies and Drug Task Force Agents executed a search warrant at a residence on County Road 88 in the Pine Ridge Community. The residence and its inhabitants had been under investigation for approximately 3 months, as law enforcement had received information that quantities of methamphetamine ice were being distributed from that location. At the time of the warrant's execution, three individuals were at the residence: Jose Alberto Ortiz, 25, Jose Vargas, 20, and Guillermo Munoz, 24, all of Fort Payne. A small amount of methamphetamine was seized, in addition to drug paraphernalia and over \$1,400 in cash. All three subjects were charged with Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance and Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Ortiz was additionally charged with Possession of a Forged Instrument 2nd Degree.

Guillermo was reportedly on probation at the time of his arrest.

Federal agencies are being contacted regarding the subjects and their activities, and additional charges are possible pending further investigation.

All three remain in jail awaiting bond at this time.

