Operation Coastal Harvest Nets 50 Felony Arrests in Western Washington

Local News

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Washington State - In an effort to reduce crime and clear local police agency warrant backlogs, as well as build law enforcement relationships, the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) sponsored Pacific Northwest Violent Offender Task Force (PNVOTF) teamed up with the Pacific County Sheriff’s Office (PCSO), the Grays Harbor County Sheriff’s Office (GHCSO), and the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) in a three day warrant sweep operation called "Operation Coastal Harvest". This joint operation involved the execution of outstanding felony arrest warrants for sex offenses, crimes of violence, weapons violations, and high profile drug cases. Three warrant teams comprising of officers from the participating agencies as well as team members from Immigration Custom Enforcement (ICE), conducted knock-and-talk warrant services at locations throughout the two counties over the last three days. As of mid afternoon on Thursday, 50 Felony arrest warrants had been served. The Grays Harbor County Sheriff's office tells KBKW that based on the information gathered, more arrests are likely in the coming weeks.The U.S. Marshals Service coordinated the operation and provided funding that allowed additional Deputies to participate at no cost to the Sheriff’s Departments . Similar warrant sweeps have been conducted around the State and it is the hope that these operations will continue in the future. The Pacific Northwest Violent Offenders Task Force (PNVOTF) is a multi-district task force comprised of U.S. Marshals and Task Force partners from the districts of Western Washington, Eastern Washington, Alaska and Oregon. The Task Force concentrates apprehension efforts on felony sex offenders, and other federal, state and local felony fugitives. The Task Force goal is to remove wanted felons from our neighborhoods in order to improve safety and reduce the amount of violence in the region.50 Felony arrests in three days is a major accomplishment in such small rural communities. Usually, when the word gets out on the first day that the Marshals are in town all the fugitives go into hiding. In this case, the Agents, Officers, and Deputies kept on knocking on doors and talking with the public until the fugitive was located. Marshals, Agents, and Deputies obtained additional intelligence from local law enforcement which lead to several locations of suspects. The relationships made by the local authorities with their Federal counterparts will benefit the local law enforcement community and the citizens of Pacific and Grays Harbor County for a long time - Grays Harbor Under Sheriff Rick Scott.