



Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 17, 2014



Revolving Door Milwaukee County Criminal Justice System Releases Four Dealers From a Major Drug Ring on Signature Bond



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Milwaukee, WI – Last Friday, Police Chief Ed Flynn announced that a one-year drug investigation led to the arrest of eight people from a major drug ring operation in Milwaukee. (MJS, June 12, 2014, “8 arrested in yearlong Milwaukee drug trafficking probe.”)

This high-profile probe resulted in the arrest of eight subjects who were distributing heroin, crack cocaine and marijuana, and turned up nine firearms. Agents from the state Department of Justice’s Division of Criminal Investigation and officers from District 3 of the Milwaukee Police Department investigated the case for more than a year, which culminated in the execution of six search warrants on Wednesday, with assistance from the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

In the story from the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Flynn stated the following:

"The Milwaukee Police Department is committed to making quality, high-impact drug arrests that take these illegal drugs off our streets," Flynn said. "We are grateful for the cooperation of our law enforcement partners in helping create and maintain neighborhoods capable of sustaining civic life."

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Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen added:

"Those who traffic drugs on Milwaukee's streets, or anywhere else in Wisconsin, put the lives of others at risk with every drug deal they make," Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said in a news release. "Their activity will not be tolerated."

The District Attorney's office and the courts disagree. Within 48 hours after 8 people involved in major drug dealing were arrested, four of the suspects were released back to the streets having posted no bail. They simply signed a piece of paper promising to appear at a later date to answer for the serious charges.

Statement from Sheriff Clarke:

Kudos to all the law enforcement officers and agencies who participated in this operation, including deputies from my agency.

This revolving door justice system frustrates the efforts of the cops on the street and the people who live in the neighborhoods who thought they got rid of this scourge. What are we to tell them? The cost of a year-long police investigation is tremendous. A lot of limited police resources go into something like this. To have it end in the release of half of those arrested by simply signing a piece of paper is disappointing.

There has been a lot of talk about the revolving door nature of the Milwaukee County Criminal Justice system. Several practitioners deny that a revolving door exists. The quick release of people involved in major drug dealing in Milwaukee is exhibit "A" in exposing the problem. With all the work by law enforcement, including the resources expended, and before the ink even dried on the police arrest reports, half the people arrested are back on Milwaukee streets to deal drugs and terrorize Milwaukee neighborhoods. This signature bond for bail does not allow investigators to continue to debrief the suspects to learn more about their criminal enterprise.

These soft-on-crime practices are killing the city of Milwaukee.

Link to MJS article: "8 Arrested in Yearlong Milwaukee Drug Trafficking Probe:"

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/crime/8-arrested-in-yearlong-milwaukee-drug-trafficking-probe-b99289934z1-262897601.html>

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