



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



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Drug raids across Sunshine Coast

Detectives from the North Coast Region and State Crime Operations Command in partnership with the Australian Crime Commission today arrested a number of people as part of a major police investigation targeting illicit drug supply on the Sunshine Coast.

Seventy police officers were involved in Operation Echo Coma which involved the execution of 22 search warrants on the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane and Ormeau today.

Police seized more than \$24,000 in cash suspected of being proceeds of crime as well as a range of illicit drugs including MDMA tablets (ecstasy), methylamphetamine, cannabis and steroids with a street value of approximately \$50,000. A concealable firearm and ammunition were also seized.

The operation resulted in the arrest of 16 people on a total of 37 criminal offences including supply of a dangerous drug, possession of a dangerous drug (exceeding scheduled amounts), possession of an unlicensed concealable firearm and possession of money suspected of being the proceeds of crime.

Detective Inspector Marty Mickelson from the State Drug Investigation Unit said the operation focused on a number of people suspected by police of being involved or associated with the sale and supply of illicit drugs on the Sunshine Coast.

“This is the second major police operation targeting drugs on the Coast in as many weeks,” Detective Inspector Mickelson said.

“Our activities here today, combined with the ongoing efforts by local police, send a clear message to people involved in the drug scene here on the coast that their activities are constantly being monitored and it is only a matter of time until they get caught up in one of our ongoing operations,” he said.

Detective Acting Superintendent John Maloney, North Coast Regional Crime Coordinator, is encouraging members of the public to keep reporting these sorts of illegal activities to police.

“Once again, valuable information from the community has played a significant part in assisting police in identifying those people involved in the supply and use of illicit drugs here on the Sunshine Coast,” he said.

A number of those arrested appeared in the Maroochydore and Beenleigh Magistrates Courts today with the remaining people issued with notices to appear in court at Maroochydore at a later date.

Police encourage anyone with information about the production, distribution and supply of drugs to provide information to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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