

# JACKSON COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE



News Release  
June 4, 2008



In early February the JCDF received information that several persons operating from a residence in Independence, MO were engaged in narcotics trafficking, counterfeiting and forgery.

An investigation was initiated and preliminary results of that indicated that the allegations were true. Over the next weeks the JCDF confirmed that persons at the residence were counterfeiting checks, forging checks and trafficking in methamphetamine.

Enough probable cause was obtained to authorize a search warrant. On February 13, 2008 the Independence Police Department Special Response Team served the warrant and made entry into the residence. They took six persons into custody. JCDF detectives searched the residence and found evidence of a sophisticated counterfeiting operation. The subjects were using computers and other methods known to counterfeiters to make authentic looking checks, currency and various forms of identification. Also recovered was a small quantity of methamphetamine, marijuana and narcotics paraphernalia.

Because it appeared the counterfeiting operation was extensive, covered a large part of the metropolitan area and involved several jurisdictions the evidence was turned over to a federal agency for investigation. One of the suspects was identified as a person who had multiple previous felony convictions. It is anticipated that several persons will eventually be charged with crimes in state and federal court.

OIC Michael Hand

