



SHERIFF

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 3, 2024

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MEN FROM FLORIDA AND NEW YORK CHARGED WITH TRANSPORTING AND TRAFFICKING COCAINE

Pittsburgh PA ---- Sheriff Kevin M. Kraus announced today that three men, two from Florida and one from New York, are in custody following a daylong investigation into the trafficking of narcotics.

Using surveillance, detectives from our office developed information Tuesday that a significant amount of cocaine was possibly being transported inside of a white SUV. Detectives located and tracked the SUV before initiating a stop Tuesday evening in North Versailles as the result of a traffic violation.

While conducting the traffic stop, detectives noticed nervous behavior by the driver and occupants and asked for consent to have a drug dog sniff the vehicle. Consent was given for an outside inspection only of the vehicle, which was then conducted by North Versailles Police Officer Steven Shawley and his K9 partner Chase. Upon completion of the inspection, K9 Chase indicated that there were narcotics in the vehicle.

A subsequent request for consent to search the inside of the vehicle was denied by the occupants. Further investigation determined that none of the three occupants had a valid driver's license at which point they were told that they were being detained pending the application for a search warrant for the vehicle.

At 10:00pm Tuesday night, the search warrant was executed on the vehicle and that search produced 15 separate kilogram size packages of suspected cocaine and a bag of suspected drug paraphernalia and packaging materials.

48-year-old Alcedo Espinal of Florida, 34-year-old Yasser Collado Feliz, also of Florida, and 48-year-old Guillermo Hernandez of New York were transported to the Allegheny County Jail for arraignment on possession, possession with intent to deliver and conspiracy charges.

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