

TETON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TETON COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2021

Teton County Successfully Obtains Civil Forfeiture of Drug Sales Proceeds

Today, the Teton County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney ("TCPA") obtained an order for forfeiture of \$7,314 in drug sales proceeds in a civil forfeiture action filed on February 18, 2021. The money was seized by the Teton County Sheriff's Office ("TCSO") in connection with the arrest of Jonathan Kehl, age 68, for the illegal sale of controlled substances from his residence in Driggs.

As outlined in the Verified Complaint for Forfeiture *in Rem* ("Complaint"), in the summer of 2020, TCSO received information that Mr. Kehl was selling cocaine and marijuana out of his residence and that Mr. Kehl would purchase large quantities of marijuana in Montana and transport it back to his residence in Driggs for resale. A joint investigation was conducted by TCSO and the Madison County Sheriff's Office. In January 2021, TCSO obtained an arrest warrant for Mr. Kehl based on probable cause that Mr. Kehl was selling controlled substances from his residence. Mr. Kehl was arrested on that warrant on January 19, 2021. During the arrest, officers seized \$7,314 in cash suspected to be proceeds of drug sales.

TCPA filed a civil forfeiture action on February 18, 2021 alleging that the \$7,314 were proceeds from the sale of drugs and/or funds intended to be used for the commission of illegal drug activities, which are subject to forfeiture under Idaho law. Mr. Kehl stipulated to forfeiture of the \$7,314, and Judge Steven Boyce entered a corresponding order. The Order of Forfeiture authorizes TSCO to use the funds for drug enforcement activities.

TCPA is separately prosecuting Mr. Kehl for three felony counts of Delivery of a Controlled Substance in case CR41-21-0030, filed January 15, 2021. If Mr. Kehl is convicted in that case, his forfeiture of the \$7,314 will be considered at sentencing.

Links:

The full text of the civil forfeiture Complaint is available here.

The full text of the Stipulation to Order of Forfeiture is available here.

The full text of the Order of Forfeiture is available here.

Additional case information and documents can be found on the iCourt Portal here.