

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Press Release

SHERIFF DAVID W. HARRISON JR.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 15, 2012

SHERIFF'S OFFICE & DEA ARRESTS 3 IN DRUG RAID

Germantown, NY – Columbia County Sheriff David Harrison, Jr. reports the arrest of three individuals as a result of an illegal drug sales investigation by the Sheriff's Office Drug Education and Enforcement Unit (DEEU), the Capital District Drug Task Force and the Columbia County District Attorney's Office over the past several months in the south west area of the county.

On Thursday October 11, 2012 at approximately 10:00PM the Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T. team, Deputy Sheriff's, Investigators from the DEEU and members of the Capital District Drug Enforcement Task Force executed a search warrant issued by Columbia County Judge Richard Koweek at the residence of 20 year old Joseph G. Clark on East Camp Road in Germantown.

Arrested in the raid were Clark, 24 year old Daniel Potts of Dogwood Lane Livingston and 25 year old James J. Stagias of Parker Road Elizaville.

The three were charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd degree a class D-Felony, Tampering with Physical Evidence a class E-Felony, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree, Resisting Arrest and Possession of a Hypodermic Instrument all class A-Misdemeanors.

While the Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T team entered the residence identifying themselves as police officers, the occupants immediately attempted to destroy evidence and actively resisted arrest. No law enforcement officers were injured however, Stagias sustained a laceration to his hand and was treated at Columbia Memorial Hospital and released.

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Over 5 grams of heroin along with drug packaging equipment, supplies and paraphernalia were recovered as a result of the search warrant. Clark is believed to distribute illegal drugs in the southern Columbia and northern Dutchess County areas.

All three defendants were arraigned in the Clermont Town Justice Court by Town Justice Ronald Banks and remanded to the county jail without bail to return at a later date.