

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 21st, 2014

SHERIFF'S OFFICE & CAPITAL DISTRICT DRUG TASK FORCE SEARCH WARRANT YIELDS TWO ARESTS

PHILMONT, NY – Columbia County Sheriff David P. Bartlett reports the arrest of two individuals 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, as a result of a six month drug investigation.

On Thursday, November 20th, 2014, at approximately 8:18PM, the Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T. team, Investigators from the DEEU and members of the Capital District Drug Enforcement Task Force (D.E.A.), executed a search warrant which was issued by Columbia County Judge Richard Koweek.

The warrant was for a residence located at 22 Elm Street in the Village of Philmont, Columbia County, New York. As a result of the search, cocaine, marijuana, drug packaging equipment, supplies, and paraphernalia were recovered. Arrested as a result of this investigation were Desiree Graziano, age 35, and William Hamm, age 43 who were both residing at that address. Both were charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd degree, with the intent to sell, a class B-Felony, Growing Cannabis, a Public Health Law misdemeanor, and Unlawfully Dealing with a Child in the First Degree, a class A Misdemeanor.

The Unlawfully Dealing with a Child charge stems from the defendants engaging in activity involving controlled substances and marijuana while in the presence of a child less than eighteen years old. Both Graziano and Hamm were arraigned in the Village of Philmont Court by Judge Russ Immarigeon, and released on their own recognizant pending a future court date.

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This investigation is continuing and anyone with information in reference to this case or any other drug activity is encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office at (518) 828-3344, or the Columbia County Tips Hotline at (518) 822-TIPS (8477). All information will be kept strictly confidential.