



# Chatham-Savannah narcotics agents dismantle alleged drug distribution ring

By Savannah Morning News

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Narcotics agents say they've dismantled a Savannah-area drug ring with five members, including two brothers.

During September, undercover Chatham-Savannah Counter Narcotics Team agents began receiving information that brothers Fabian Notto and Frank Notto III were selling various controlled substances throughout the county and enlisting other people's help to distribute the drugs, said agency spokesman Gene Harley.

On Oct. 8, CNT agents followed Fabian Notto throughout the day. In the evening, Harley said, CNT made contact with Fabian Notto and a member of his organization, Wesley Johnson. A search of Fabian Notto and Johnson resulted in the seizure of more than 100 grams of bath salts, nearly two ounces of marijuana and prescription pills, Harley said, adding that a search of Fabian Notto's residence on the 1900 block of Archer Street resulted in the seizure of \$2,400.

Also on Oct. 8, undercover agents made arrangements to purchase "Molly," a pure form of ecstasy, from Frank Notto, Harley said. At a predetermined location, a member of the organization, Barry Beaubien, met with undercover agents and the drug transaction was completed, Harley said. He was arrested following a brief foot chase. Seized in the operation was more than an ounce of bath salts and a small amount of marijuana, Harley said.

On Oct. 9, CNT agents arranged another drug purchase in which Charon Baxter attempted to sell crack cocaine, Harley said. Baxter, who attempted to flee on foot, was arrested by agents. Later that evening, agents made contact with Frank Notto and advised him that he was wanted. He later turned himself in.

A search of Frank Notto's residence on the [REDACTED] resulted in the seizure of bath salts, Harley said.

At the conclusion of the operation, multiple ounces of bath salts, marijuana, prescription pills and nearly \$3,000 in U.S. currency was seized, Harley said, adding that the seized drugs have an estimated street value of as much as \$4,500.

Presently, all five persons remain in the Chatham County jail. This investigation into the Notto brothers is not CNT's first. This latest arrest marks Fabian Notto's second arrest and Frank Notto's third arrest by CNT, Harley said.

The following is a list of the charges provided by CNT as a result of its investigation:

– Fabian Keith Notto, 42, of Savannah - possession of a controlled substance (bath salts) with intent to distribute, possession of marijuana with intent to distribute

Note: This arrest marked Fabian Notto's 21st booking in Chatham County, 12th drug-related charge and second CNT arrest. Additionally, Fabian Notto was released from federal custody in February 2013 and was on federal probation at the time of this incident.

– Frank Notto III, 30, of Savannah - sale of a controlled substance (bath salts), use of a telecommunication device for criminal use, parole violation

Note: This arrest marked Frank Notto III's eighth booking in Chatham County, 16th drug-related charge and third arrest by CNT. Frank Notto was on felony parole for drug-related convictions at the time of this arrest.

– Wesley Eugene Johnson, 35y, of Savannah - possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, parole violation

Note: This arrest marked Johnson's 17th booking in Chatham County, ninth drug-related charge and his second arrest by CNT. Johnson was on parole for drug-related convictions at the time of this incident.

– Barry Travis Beaubien, 26, of Savannah - sale of a controlled substance (bath salts), party to the crime sale of a controlled substance (bath salts), possession of marijuana, obstruction

Note: This arrest marked Beaubien's sixth booking in Chatham County and his third drug-related arrest.

– Charon Javar Baxter, 28, of Savannah - possession of a controlled substance (crack cocaine) with intent to distribute, obstruction by resisting, obstruction by giving false name

Note: This arrest marked Baxter's 20th booking in Chatham County, 18th drug-related charge and his fifth CNT arrest. Baxter was on active probation at the time of his arrest and was found to have a warrant for probation violation.



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