



## Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

# MEDIA RELEASE



## REGIONAL NARCOTICS UNIT

**February 4, 2015** – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports that on February 4<sup>th</sup> at approximately 1:30 p.m. Agents with the Regional Narcotics Unit (RENU) attempted to stop a vehicle on southbound Interstate 75 at Mitchell Ave for a traffic infraction. The vehicle failed to stop for the officers and exited onto Mitchell Ave towards Spring Grove Ave. The pursuit continued north on Spring Grove Ave to Vine Street. The driver lost control of the vehicle while attempting to turn onto Township Ave from Vine Street. The driver struck a fire hydrant at this intersection and the vehicle came to a stop next to a residence on Township Ave.

Agents observed the driver exit the vehicle carrying a handgun and an orange bag. The driver was then observed running north from the scene of the auto accident. During the foot pursuit officers heard what they believed was a single gunshot as they continued their pursuit. Approximately 3 blocks north of the auto accident a Police Officer with the Elmwood Place Police Department, who also responded to the area to assist Agents with the chase, observed the individual running and gave chase. The Elmwood Place Officer was able to get close enough to the suspect to administer his Taser which effectively stopped the suspect from running any further. At this time the Elmwood Officer and RENU Agents were able to take the suspect into custody.

Agents recovered a combined weight of approximately 2.72 pounds of heroin from the suspect's vehicle and the nearby area where the suspect was apprehended. Agents also recovered a 9mm semi-automatic handgun from the nearby area where the suspect was apprehended.

The suspect was identified as Jerome Sweeten of Springfield Township and was later charged with Drug Trafficking and Possession of Heroin, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Weapons under Disability, and Failure to Comply. Sweeten was transported to the Hamilton County Justice Center and will be arraigned for the listed charges on February 5, 2015.

### **MEDIA CONTACT: MIKE ROBISON**

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