



## Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

# MEDIA RELEASE



## IMMUNITY CASE EXAMPLE OF SUCCESS

**Hamilton County, Ohio, October 18, 2016** – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports the first submission of drugs and drug paraphernalia under the immunity clause. In September Sheriff Neil brought forward this proposal which Prosecutor Joseph Deters supported and subsequently filed a motion. The motion was granted by Common Pleas Judge Robert Ruehlman. In addition to the Sheriff, Prosecutor and Judge, this bi-partisan effort was backed by Heroin Coalition Chairman Commissioner Dennis Deters and County Coroner Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco.

In the early morning hours of Sunday, October 16th an individual entered our Sheriff's Office District 5 in Anderson Township to surrender drugs and paraphernalia belonging to their friend. The individual originally agreed to hold onto the drug items while the friend sought help and is currently participating in a drug treatment program. Wanting to make certain the friend never returned to using drugs upon release from the treatment program, they decided instead to surrender the items to our Sheriff's Office. The property surrendered included: two hypodermic needles, five glass crack pipes, four metal crack pipes, five plastic straws containing drug residue, two push-rods, a tie-off and chore-boy for the crack pipes.

Sheriff Jim Neil stated, "When we offered this option to the public this is exactly what we hoped would happen. The addict is in a treatment program, the friend is helping their loved one get clean, and we've taken drugs and drug paraphernalia off the streets!"

Our Office encourages participation. A photo of the items surrendered appears below.



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