



STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

302 West Washington Street  
IGCS Room E114  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Officer Travis Thickstun  
Public Information Officer  
Telephone 317 / 232-2469  
www.in.gov/isep

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Officer Travis Thickstun**  
**tthickstun@atc.in.gov**  
**(317) 691-5125**

**Excise Police Issue 252 Tickets in Terre Haute**

**TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (Aug. 28)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers issued 252 tickets during this weekend's Scheid Diesel Fest in Terre Haute.

Excise officers cited or arrested 237 people on 252 charges, most for illegal possession or consumption of alcohol. Officers also issued 15 warning tickets.

This weekend's Scheid Diesel event took place at the Vigo County Fairgrounds on U.S. 41, with many people also filling the parking lots of businesses along U.S. 41 south of I-70. In addition to patrolling the Fairgrounds and surrounding area, excise police also patrolled on and near Indiana State University, as students returned to campus for the new school year.

The following are some of the charges filed by excise police this weekend:

- 125 – Illegal possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages
- 43 – Various traffic violations, including excessive exhaust smoke
- 31 – Seatbelt violation
- 15 – Inducing minor to possess alcohol or furnishing alcohol to a minor
- 12 – Juvenile possession to tobacco
- 6 – Open container violation
- 6 – Drug possession
- 3 – Possession of false ID
- 3 – Public intoxication
- 3 – Public indecency
- 3 – Resisting law enforcement
- 1 – False informing
- 1 – Possession of handgun without permit

Travis L. Jenkins, 18, of Terre Haute, was arrested after he was stopped for running a red light. Jenkins was preliminarily charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and possession of synthetic marijuana. Police also seized pill dispensers, baggies, pipes, grinders and scales from his vehicle.

Stephen R. Couch, 21, of Milton, Ky., was arrested after he was stopped for not using headlights when required. Couch was taken from his vehicle at gunpoint when officers observed a handgun as he was

reaching into the center console of his vehicle. He was preliminarily charged with possession of a handgun without a permit and also cited for not using headlights.

Brandon Frichtl, 22, of Newton, Ill., was arrested for public intoxication at Rally's on U.S. 41 after a manager complained to police about an intoxicated person in the restaurant lobby. Frichtl had no driver's license and identified himself by showing police an arrest ticket by another police department.

"Indiana State Excise Police officers are assigned to work events like the Scheid Diesel Fest to ensure public safety by enforcing the alcoholic beverage laws," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "Persons consuming excessive amounts of alcohol during these types of events can often cause the celebrations to less than enjoyable for others."

"The State Excise Police has a zero tolerance policy for persons who consume alcohol and are underage," he said. "Our mission is to ensure that everyone attending events like Scheid Diesel is safe."

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. Excise officers enforce all state laws, but focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.

*All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.*