

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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For Immediate Release

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Excise Police Seize 1,429 Items at Two Terre Haute Businesses

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (Aug. 15) – Indiana State Excise Police officers executed search warrants at two Terre Haute convenience stores this afternoon, resulting in the seizure of 1,429 items suspected of violating Indiana's new synthetic marijuana law.

On July 12, excise police announced their enforcement of the new law prohibiting possession or sale of synthetic marijuana, also known as K2, Spice, Crush, Mad Hatter, or a variety of other names. (Photographs of synthetic marijuana products attached.)

This afternoon, excise officers served search warrants at two convenience stores:

- Express Mart/Midwest (Owned by AMS Gas & Convenience), 1831 N. Third Street, Terre Haute 98 items seized.
- Express Mart/Midwest (Owned by AMS Gas & Convenience), 301 S. Third Street, Terre Haute 1,331 items seized.

As a result of these search warrants, officers seized 1,429 items believed to be synthetic marijuana, in violation a new law that made these products illegal on July 1.

"As law enforcement officers continue to battle the war on drugs, new substances have come along, both natural and manmade," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "As part of its mission to keep Indiana families safe, the ISEP will continue to investigate locations suspected of selling illegal products such as K2/Spice. We will continue to do our part to minimize the perpetuation of substance abuse problems statewide."

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.



