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For Immediate Release

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## Excise Police Search Two Eastside Homes Find Alcohol, 11 lbs. of Marijuana

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (Dec. 18)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers served search warrants at two homes on the eastside of Indianapolis this morning looking for evidence of illegal alcohol sales.

Excise police found 543 bottles and cans of alcohol, an undisclosed amount of cash and about 11.34 lbs. of marijuana – with a street value around \$30,000-\$50,000. Police also seized a handgun, two vehicles and three refrigerators.

Today's searches were the result of a long-term investigation by excise police into illegal alcohol sales at 2445 & 2449 N. Arsenal Avenue. Undercover excise officers made several liquor purchases during their investigation.

Excise police are pursuing charges on three individuals related to this case. Charges may include maintaining a common nuisance, sale of alcohol without a permit, sale of alcohol when unlawful (Sunday), tax fraud, money laundering and possession of marijuana.

"Today's investigation demonstrates that significant criminal activity can be discovered while excise officers are conducting the agency's primary mission," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said.

Excise police will continue to investigate complaints from the public concerning illegal alcohol sales. Anyone with information on illegal alcohol sales should contact the District 6 office at 317-541-4100.

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.