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Overview

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team (HUNT) is a multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force providing service to the counties of Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Presque Isle, in Northeastern Michigan. The primary goal of the team is to identify, infiltrate, and arrest those involved in the illegal use, sale, and/or distribution of controlled substances.

HUNT was established in 1990 and is governed under an inter-local agreement between the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle, the city of Alpena, the city of Rogers City, and the Michigan State Police. HUNT is overseen by a board of directors made up of the prosecuting attorneys from the four counties and the law enforcement officials from the member departments.

During 2013, the team consisted of undercover officers from local police agencies as well as a detective sergeant and a detective lieutenant from the Michigan State Police. All of those detectives have been specifically trained in narcotics and special investigations, undercover operations, surveillance, and raid entry. Approximately 11,102 officer hours were spent during the year on team activity.

During the team's 23 years of service, HUNT has removed approximately 8.8 million dollars worth of illegal drugs from the streets of the community, as well as 436 illegal firearms. A total of 3,481 investigations have been initiated resulting in the arrest of 1,836 felons, 479 misdemeanants, and 537 fugitives.

Board of Directors

Chairman Mr. Edward Black, Alpena County Prosecuting Attorney

Vice Chairman F/Lt. Mike Hahn, Michigan State Police Alpena Post Commander

Legal Advisor Mr. Thomas Weichel, Alcona County Prosecuting Attorney

Secretary/Treasurer Sheriff Steve Kieliszewski, Alpena County

Sheriff Doug Atchison, Alcona County

Ms. Terri Case, Montmorency County Prosecuting Attorney

Sheriff Donald Edwards, Montmorency County

Chief Joel Jett, Alpena City Police Department

Capt. Robert Lesneski, Michigan State Police 7th District Commander

Sheriff Robert Paschke, Presque Isle County

Chief Matthew Quaine, Rogers City Police Department

Investigations

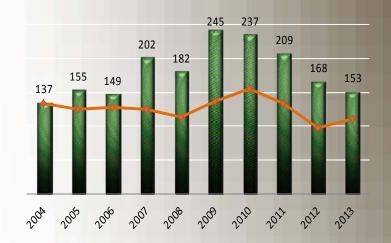
HUNT initiated 153 new investigations in 2013. Of those, 74 were drug related (listed right), 25 involved the location and arrest of fugitives, 38 were providing assistance to other departments, and the remaining cases included false application for firearm, stolen property, sex offender registration violation, minor in possession of alcohol, driving while license suspended, and others.

As a result of those 2013 investigations, 99 people have been arrested, with 9 still pending arrest.

Heroin Delivery	4
Heroin Possession	1
Hydrocodone Delivery	5
Lorazepam Delivery	1
Marijuana Delivery	10
Marijuana Manufacturing	18
Marijuana Possession	4
Methadone Delivery	1
Methamphetamine Delivery	1
Methamphetamine Lab	8
Morphine Delivery	5
Morphine Possession	1
Oxycodone Delivery	1
Prescription Fraud	1
Suboxone Delivery	9
Synthetics Delivery	3
Valium Delivery	1

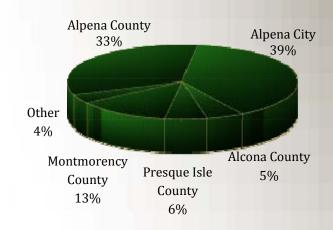
Annual Investigation Trends

The chart to the right depicts annual investigations for the past 10 years, as well as a trend line (1%) of officer hours. A total of 11,102 hours were spent during the year by officers investigating the 153 complaints initiated.



Investigations by Jurisdiction

The city of Alpena is the largest municipality in HUNT's coverage area. Therefore, much of the drug trafficking is done there, with the drugs subsequently being transported to the surrounding communities.



Arrests

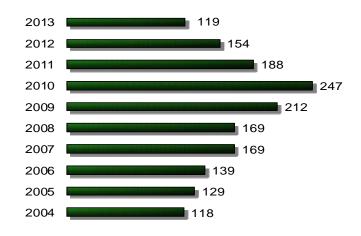
Hunt arrested 119 people in 2013. Of those arrested, 83 (70%) were repeat offenders. The ratio of male to female arrests was 66% male and 34% female.

Some of those individuals were arrested as a result of HUNT investigations, some were fugitives, or other agency warrants, and some were bench warrants.

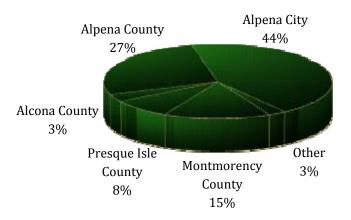
Arrest Stats

Total Persons Arrested	119
Male	79
Female	40
Over 18	117
Under 18	2
Repeat Offender	83

Annual Arrested Persons



Arrests by Jurisdiction



Arrest Counts

Of the 207 arrest counts during 2013, 156 were felony charges, 15 were misdemeanor, and 36 were fugitives. A total of 160 of these were drug related as listed to the right. The other charges included felony firearm, possession of burglar's tools, driving while license suspended, resist and obstruct, and various others.

Annual Arrest Counts

2013	207
2012	204
2011	299
2010	360
2009	327
2008	247
2007	230
2006	208
2005	192
2004	200

Hydrocodone Delivery	13
Maintain a Drug House	3
Marijuana Delivery Conspiracy	2
Marijuana Delivery	24
Marijuana Production Conspiracy	2
Marijuana Production	12
Marijuana Possession	10
Methadone Delivery Conspiracy	2
Methadone Delivery	4
Methamphetamine Production Conspiracy	9
Methamphetamine Delivery	7
Methamphetamine Production	9
Methamphetamine Operate Lab	20
Morphine Delivery	7
Other Prescriptions Conspiracy	2
Other Prescriptions Delivery	4
Oxycodone Delivery	2
Prescription Fraud	1
Psilocybin Possession	2
Suboxone Delivery Conspiracy	5
Suboxone Delivery	15
Synthetics Delivery	2
Synthetics Operate Lab	2
Valium Possession	1

Drug Seizures

HUNT seized \$338,689 worth of illegal drugs during 2013. Drugs are seized throughout the year by means of controlled/undercover purchases, possession during traffic stops, search warrants, HEMP flights, consent searches, etc.

2013 marked a significant rise in the seizures of methamphetamine, heroin, prescription opiates, and synthetic narcotics.

Annual Drug Seizures



Drug	Seizures	Street Value
Hashish	16.5 Grams	165.00
Heroin	5.8 Grams	1,450.00
Hydrocodone	156 Units	2,340.00
Marijuana	1856 Grams	18,560.00
Marijuana	239 Plants	239,000.00
Methadone	11 Units	165.00
Methamphetamine	48.6 Grams	4,860.00
Morphine	69 Units	1,035.00
Oxycodone	123 Units	3,690.00
Psilocybin	14.7 Grams	882.00
Suboxone	48 Units	480.00
Synthetics	1124 Grams	56,190.00
Synthetic Marijuana	945 Grams	9,450.00
Valium	111 Units	222.00
Other Prescriptions	87 Units	200.00

Searches/Seizures

Search Warrants

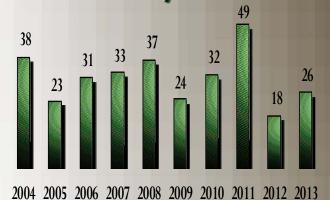
HUNT conducted 26 search warrants in 2013. As a result, 10 illegal firearms were seized as well as drugs and drug trafficking evidence.

Property Seizures

HUNT seized \$50,520 worth of property during the year. This property consisted of 10 vehicles, \$10,181 in cash, 11 cell phones, and other items used to facilitate drug trafficking operations. Some of these items will be sold at public auction, some will be destroyed, some will be retained by HUNT, and some will be returned in settlement agreements.

Forfeiture Proceeds

A total of \$15,636 in forfeiture proceeds were adjudicated during the year. These proceeds were obtained through public sale of seized items, retention of seized cash, and settlement agreements. Some of the adjudicated property was seized during previous years, and some during 2013.







Intelligence Gathering/ Public Affairs

The team's web site at www.huntteam.net is maintained to provide information to the public, such as press releases, board meeting dates and times, etc., and to promote the submittal of anonymous tips delivered to the team from the site. No link is made to the sender of the tips which are delivered to the team via e-mail. Some tips are received regarding drug activity in other areas, and are therefore forwarded to the respective team. Some tips received are regarding crimes other than drug related, and may be forwarded to another agency. Each tip received is assigned to a detective for investigation and/or follow-up. At year end, the web site was receiving an average of 98 visits per day.

Presentations

A total of 26 presentations were put on by HUNT for area special interest groups, fire fighters, school personnel, health care workers, etc. These presentations provide information regarding recognition of meth labs and/or meth lab components, signs of drug use and abuse, prescription drug diversion, etc., and promote the submittal of tips/ information to HUNT via the web site or the toll free phone number maintained by the team. A total of approximately 510 people from the community were present during these presentations in 2013.

Prevention

D/Lt. Keck participates in the Alpena County Prevention Policy Board, a coalition in cooperation with Up North Prevention. The mission statement of the board is: Advancing Substance Abuse Prevention Efforts in Alpena County. The membership addresses substance abuse issues, prescription drug diversion, meth lab awareness, synthetic drug use, community education, etc.

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Significant Activity

Meth Labs

4 Meth Labs were discovered during the year 2013, as well as one meth dump sight. Two of the labs were in Ossineke Township, Alpena County, and two were in Sanborn Township, Alpena County. The dump sight was on the river bank in the city of Alpena. All of these labs were utilizing the "one pot" method of methamphetamine production.

As a result of those investigations, 8 people were arrested and charged with delivery of methamphetamine, 8 with manufacturing methamphetamine, 12 people arrested and charged with 20 counts of operating a lab, and 9 charged with conspiracy to manufacture meth. Most of these individuals had extensive criminal histories, including felony firearms charges, criminal sexual conduct, and various drug related offenses.

HUNT remains the only agency within the four-county area that is equipped and trained to handle a meth lab. The team commander is trained to the "packaging" level, and one detective to the "responder" level of meth lab response. In conjunction with the Michigan State Police, a lab can be dismantled and removed/transported to a hazardous waste container.

Mother of 3 Manufacturing Synthetics

Late in the year of 2013, HUNT initiated an investigation that began as an assist to Child Protective Services in Alpena County. The investigation led to a search of a residence in which a 36 year old female was raising 3 children age 9 and under. The search revealed large quantities of synthetic marijuana, AM-2201 (a chemical component used in producing synthetic marijuana), Methylone (aka MDMA or Molly), marijuana, an unregistered handgun, and components used in conjunction with AM-2201 in the manufacture of synthetic marijuana.

The investigation revealed that the female was manufacturing synthetic marijuana which she was then selling from her house, along with MDMA and marijuana. HUNT also located and seized an illegally owned, unregistered handgun that was located in the children's bedroom along with a large quantity of the narcotics that the children had access to.

The female was ultimately charged with possession with intent to deliver AM-2201, possession with intent to deliver Methylone, possession with intent to deliver marijuana, using a building/equipment to manufacture AM-2201 in the presence of a minor, using a building/equipment to manufacture AM-2201 while possessing a firearm, and possessing a pistol at the time of committing a felony. The children were removed from the home by Child Protective Services.

Significant Activity

Following the assignment of a Montmorency County Deputy to the team in late April of 2013, HUNT's ability to infiltrate the drug trafficking and related crime in that area greatly increased. Due to the connection and communication between the HUNT officer and the county sheriff department, as well as the officer's knowledge of the community, a focused initiative is more successful.

Lewiston Man Trafficking Heroin

During the year an 8-month investigation was launched, involving the trafficking of heroin and prescription narcotics from the downstate area to Lewiston. That investigation resulted in a Lewiston man being arrested in February of 2014, and charged with two counts delivery of heroin, one count delivery of morphine, and one count delivery of Vicodin.

Marijuana, Mushrooms, and Handguns Seized

Acting on a tip from a conservation officer, HUNT detectives responded to a residence in Montmorency County where an illegal marijuana plant was observed outside of the residence. Following the initial investigation a search warrant was executed at the residence where an illegal marijuana growing operation was discovered. Over 30 illegally growing marijuana plants were seized from the residence, as well as a quantity of processed marijuana, a quantity of hallucinogenic mushrooms, digital scales, and handguns.

Valium Shipment Intercepted

In the spring of 2013 HUNT detectives learned about an alleged shipment of drugs being transported to Alcona County (Greenbush) from Flint, for street sale. Detectives were able to gather enough intelligence regarding the trip to confirm it's validity and identify the suspect and the vehicle he was travelling in. After locating the vehicle as it travelled northbound, a traffic stop was conducted in Alcona County. The suspect was in possession of a large quantity of pills, later identified as Valium and a quantity of marijuana. During a subsequent interview, the suspect admitted that his intent was to sell the valium pills to a subject in Greenbush, and to smoke the marijuana during his trip back downstate.

Illegally Purchased Handgun

Acting on a tip received from the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena, detectives from the Huron Undercover Narcotics Team conducted an investigation into a Presque Isle County woman who was a convicted felon and purchased a pistol in Presque Isle County. The woman, using a name under which she had obtained a Michigan driver's license, had obtained a permit to purchase a handgun by providing false information in Cheboygan County. The woman then purchased the handgun in Presque Isle County and registered it through Cheboygan County. She then gave the firearm to her boyfriend who, due to his criminal history, couldn't purchase handguns in Michigan.

HUNT detectives, with the assistance of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, and the Presque Isle County Sheriff Department, executed a search warrant at the Presque Isle County residence. During the search detectives encountered a grenade hidden within the residence. The Michigan State Police Bomb Squad responded and removed the device. Detectives recovered the illegally purchased handgun, a second unregistered handgun, and three improperly registered handguns.

Felony charges were issued against the female in Cheboygan County, for false application for a firearm. At year end, she was believed to have left the state and was still wanted on that charge. The boyfriend was charged in Presque Isle County with possession of a gas ejecting device, and purchasing a pistol without a license.

Yellow Jug Program

The team continues to participate in the "Yellow Jug Old Drugs" program sponsored by the Great Lakes Clean Water Organization. Unlike the other Yellow Jug drop points, HUNT is able to collect scheduled or controlled substances that are no longer being utilized by patients, and dispose of them under the guidelines for controlled substances.

During 2013 HUNT officers provided means for these drugs to be turned in at scheduled take-back events at Senior Centers and dropped off at the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

15,871 units of controlled substances were collected during the year, for processing and disposal by HUNT. These efforts are to prevent the drugs from ending up in the water supply, or in the hands of criminal drug traffickers.

Significant Activity

During 2013 an investigation which became a cooperative effort with neighboring teams, resulted in the seizure of a large amount of bath salts locally. This investigation has since been referred to federal authorities and was ongoing at year-end.

Wanted Burglars Apprehended

In the spring of 2013, HUNT was requested to assist the Alpena County Sheriff Department in the location of two individuals who had allegedly committed a home invasion/burglary and severely beaten the resident of the home. Three suspects had fled the scene of the crime with one of them having been apprehended and the other two still at large.

The two wanted suspects had been identified, with one of them having been the subject of a recent HUNT investigation. HUNT immediately established surveillance on that suspect's residence and obtained a search warrant for his home. HUNT surveillance officers were able to observe that suspect exit his residence and subsequently conducted a traffic stop, taking that individual into custody. The search warrant executed at his home revealed evidence of the home invasion and assault.

HUNT officers then learned of a possible location of the second suspect and responded to that residence. The second suspect was in fact located at that residence, and was taken into custody without further incident. Both suspects, as well as the evidence gained during the search warrant, were turned over to the Alpena County Sheriff Department for the furtherance of their investigation.

Funding Sources

Alcona County	67,530
Alpena City	90,522
Alpena County	3,550
Alpena Township	1,000
Ossineke Township	1,000
Sanborn Township	375
Green Township	1,000
Michigan State Police	577,945
Montmorency County	46,905
Presque Isle County	14,542
Byrne Grant	87,980
Private Contributions	750
Restitution/Recovered Funds	3,163
Interest	332
Adjudicated Forfeitures	47,949
Total Operating Costs	944,543

- * The listed figures reflect the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013.
- * A portion of the adjudicated forfeitures expended during the year were proceeds from previous years.

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Conclusion

I am pleased to present the Huron Undercover Narcotics Team's annual report for 2013. I am confident that the team has made a significant impact on drug trafficking and the associated criminal activity in our community.

2013 marked several noted trends in drug trafficking in Northeast Michigan. The first of those being meth labs and the delivery of methamphetamine. Meth lab investigations are time intensive, and often reveal conspiracies involving numerous people and multiple labs. Another noted trend was the trafficking of prescription opiates and heroin continuing to increase, while marijuana trafficking steadily declines. 70% of the controlled purchases conducted during the year were for prescription opiates and/or heroin.

The team was requested to assist other agencies on 38 occasions during 2013. Those agencies included the local police/sheriff departments, the Michigan State Police, Child Protective Services, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Corrections, the Liquor Control Commission, Customs and Border Patrol, and adjoining drug teams.

I am proud of the team's accomplishments in 2013. Despite limited resources the team was able to effectively reduce the availability of illegal narcotics in the community, thereby impacting the criminal activity that typically accompanies it. Those efforts will continue as we are dedicated to providing a quality service for the people of the community.

Respectfully,

D/Lt. Frank Keck

Commander, Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

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