

# Ohio State Highway Patrol

## Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



For Immediate Release: March 10, 2008  
Contact: Lt. Tony Bradshaw or Sgt. Jeremy Landis (614) 752-2792

### **Patrol seizes 2 kilos of cocaine, valued at \$300,000 in Lucas County traffic stop**

TOLEDO – Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized two kilos of cocaine, valued at \$300,000 during a traffic stop Friday on the Ohio Turnpike in Lucas County. The suspect will be arraigned today in Maumee Municipal Court on felony charges associated with the case.

The driver, Melvin W. Baker, 46, of Brooklyn, New York, was charged with aggravated trafficking and possession of cocaine, both first-degree felonies.

Troopers stopped a 2008 Ford Edge, with North Carolina registration, for a speed violation eastbound near milepost 55 on the Ohio Turnpike in Lucas County at 7:17 p.m. Friday. A Patrol drug-detecting canine alerted to the vehicle and a probable cause search revealed two kilos of cocaine.

Baker was incarcerated in the Lucas County Jail. If convicted, he could face up to 20 years in prison and up to a \$40,000 fine.

Through January, the Patrol has seized more than 6,000 grams of illegal narcotics valued at approximately \$438,000. In 2007, the Patrol seized more than 3.3 million grams of illegal narcotics valued at approximately \$53.8 million.

#

#

#

*Note to editors: Want to receive our media releases via email? Send your name, phone number, email, media affiliation and work address to [wwwohp@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:wwwohp@dps.state.oh.us)*

08-015