

# Ohio State Highway Patrol

## Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



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### **Patrol seizes cocaine and heroin, valued at \$210,000 in Richland County traffic stop**

MANSFIELD – Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized more than a kilo of cocaine and a quarter-pound of heroin, valued at \$210,000, during a traffic stop Thursday on Interstate 71 in Richland County. The suspects will be arraigned today in Mansfield Municipal Court on felony charges associated with the case.

The driver, Lisa Fonseca, 33, and passenger, Jose Vega, 41, both of Tonawanda, New York, were charged with possession of heroin, possession of cocaine, trafficking in heroin and trafficking in cocaine, all first-degree felonies. The suspects were also charged with possession of criminal tools, a fifth-degree felony.

Yesterday at approximately 8:12 a.m., a trooper stopped a 2002 Chevy Impala, with Ohio registration, for a vehicle defect violation northbound near milepost 174 on Interstate 71 in Richland County. A Patrol drug-detecting canine alerted to the vehicle and a probable cause search revealed more than a kilo of cocaine and a quarter-pound of heroin.

The suspects were incarcerated in the Richland County Jail. If convicted, the suspects could face up to 41 years in prison and up to an \$82,500 fine.

Through July, the Patrol has seized more than one million grams of illegal narcotics valued at approximately \$25 million. In 2007, the Patrol seized more than 3.3 million grams of illegal narcotics valued at approximately \$53.8 million.

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