

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



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Patrol seizes 4 kilos of cocaine, valued at \$400,000 in Warren County traffic stop

CINCINNATI – Three suspects are facing felony drug charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized four kilos of cocaine, valued at an estimated \$400,000, during a traffic stop yesterday in Warren County.

The driver of the vehicle, Monica Martinez, 29, and passenger Marcela Castillo, 21, both of Little Rock, Ark., and a second passenger, Leonardo Garcia, 25, of Columbus, Ohio, were charged with aggravated trafficking in cocaine and possession of cocaine, both first-degree felonies; and possession of criminal tools, a fifth degree felony.

Troopers stopped a 2002 Chevy Tahoe, with Arkansas registration, for a marked lanes violation on the Interstate 71, near milepost 41, yesterday. Troopers observed criminal indicators and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed four kilos of cocaine.

The suspects were incarcerated in the Warren County Jail. If convicted, they could each face up to 21 years in prison and a \$42,500 fine.

A photo of the seized cocaine is available for download on the Patrol's web site at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov.

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