

# Ohio State Highway Patrol

## Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



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## **Visitor at Warren Correctional Institution arrested for Illegal Drug Conveyance**

LEBANON - A West Chester man is facing felony drug charges after troopers arrested him Friday for attempting to convey drugs into the Warren Correctional Institution.

Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers charged Richard J. Heritz, 85, with attempting to convey drugs onto the grounds of a detention facility, a third-degree felony, and possessing criminal tools, a fifth-degree felony.

Patrol and Department of Rehabilitation and Correction investigators obtained information that Heritz would be attempting to convey drugs to his grandson, an inmate at the Warren Correctional Institution, during a scheduled visit. When Heritz arrived for his visit, troopers confronted him about his involvement in the conveyance of drugs. He voluntarily surrendered one large package containing approximately 22 grams of suspected marijuana. It is estimated that marijuana is worth, on average, \$23 per gram in Ohio's correctional institutions.

Heritz was incarcerated in the Warren County Jail. If convicted, he could face up to seven years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol investigates criminal activity on state-owned and leased property.

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Editor's Note: A photo of the seized marijuana is available for download at [www.statepatrol.ohio.gov](http://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov).

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