



West Pikeland Township Police

1649 Art School Road, Chester Springs, PA 19425

Phone: 610-827-5007 Fax: 610-827-1738

Shane T. Clark, Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

On Monday, June 1, 2009, members of the West Pikeland Township Police Department along with members of the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and the Chester County Detectives executed a Search Warrant at 807 Byers Road in West Pikeland Township. The warrant was served as a result of an ongoing investigation that originated in Bucks County which was ongoing for several months and involved law enforcement personnel from the Chester County HIDTA, Chester County Detectives, West Pikeland Township Police Department, West Chester Borough Police Department, Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General BNI, Pennsylvania State Police and the DEA, assisting Bucks County authorities. While Chester County authorities focused on the Byers Road location, Bucks County authorities executed a search warrant at 1432 Mink Road in Ottsville, Bedminster Township (Bucks County) where they seized 481 marijuana plants. As a result of the search at 807 Byers Road, discovered in the basement of the residence was a large sophisticated hydroponic marijuana grow operation. The operation contained 786 potted marijuana plants in several different stages of growth, an irrigation and lighting system as well as packaging material and a large quantity of dried marijuana in preparation for packaging.. The Bucks County District Attorney's Office estimates the seizure at the West Pikeland location as well the Bedminster Township location to have an estimated street value of up to \$5 million dollars. Officers at the West Pikeland location also found that the residence was illegally hooked into the PECO electrical service and that theft of power was used to operate the grow operation. The seizure in Chester County is the largest marijuana grow operation in the Counties history. The investigation is ongoing. In custody are Hung Tran Nguyen, 48 and Van Tran Nghiep, 42, both of Philadelphia, charged with violation of the Controlled Substance Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, Theft, Risking a Catastrophe and

Criminal Conspiracy. Both subjects were remanded to Bucks County prison after failing to post \$500,000 bail each.

Assisting in the Chester County incident were the Chester County Detectives, Bucks County Detectives, West Pikeland Police, Bedminster Police, Pennsylvania State Police Clandestine Lab Response Team, Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General and the Drug Enforcement Administration.