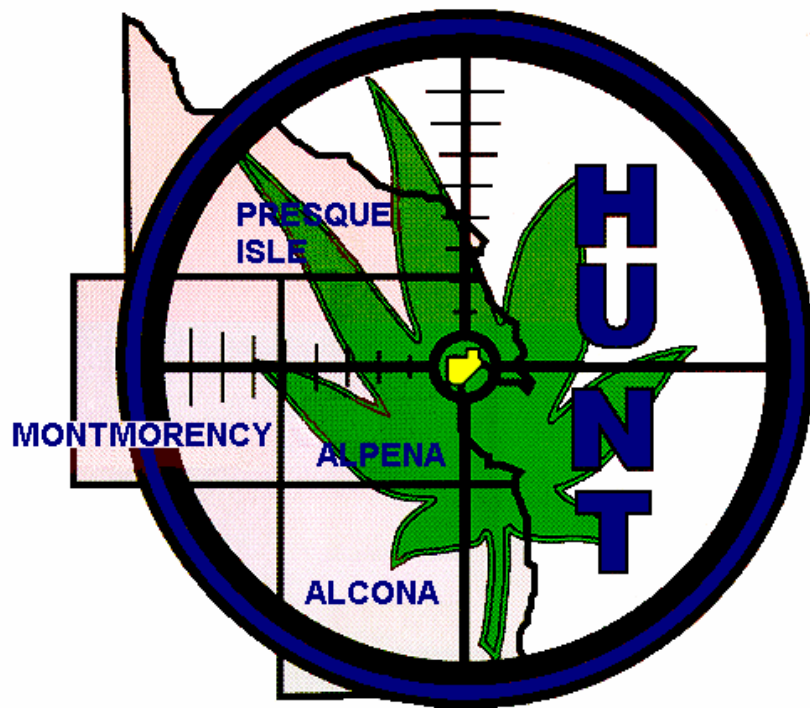


# **Huron Undercover Narcotics Team**



## **2000 Annual Report**

Prepared By:  
*D/Lt. Kenneth Mills*  
Unit Commander

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# Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

## *2000 Annual Report*

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### Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

#### **Executive Board**

Prosecuting Attorney Thomas Weichel-----Chairman  
F/Lt. Jeffery Anthony-----Vice Chairman  
Sheriff Douglas Ellinger-----Secretary/Treasurer  
Prosecuting Attorney Donald McLennan-----Legal Advisor

#### **Board of Directors**

F/Lt. Jeffery Anthony	Post Commander	MSP-Alpena Post
Captain Robert Bertee	Division Commander	MSP-CID
Ben Bolser	Prosecuting Attorney	Montmorency County
Douglas Ellinger	Sheriff	Alcona County
Terry Flewelling	Sheriff	Presque Isle County
James Gibson	Chief	Onaway City P. D.
Dennis Grenkowicz	Prosecuting Attorney	Alpena County
Ron Karr	Sheriff	Montmorency County
James Marquardt	Sheriff	Alpena County
Donald McLennan	Prosecuting Attorney	Presque Isle County
Matt Quaine	Chief	Rogers City P. D.
Thad Taylor	Director	Alpena Public Safety
Thomas Weichel	Prosecuting Attorney	Alcona County

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## Introduction

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force formed in October of 1990. HUNT is made up of officers from the Michigan State Police, The Alpena County Sheriff Department, The Montmorency County Sheriff Department, and the Alpena City Police Department. HUNT was formed to investigate and enforce narcotics violations in the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle.

HUNT continued its success of recent years in the year 2000. HUNT had increases in most of the categories reported in the annual report. HUNT had an increase of 11% in investigations, when compared to 1999. The 137 investigations handled by HUNT during the year 2000 is comparable to most years during HUNT's history. HUNT also had an 8% increase in persons arrested and a 13% increase in intelligence reports. During the past year, HUNT has had a great deal of success in moving up the ladder in it's investigations, thus arresting larger scale narcotics traffickers, and having a bigger impact on narcotics activity in Northeast Michigan. HUNT investigations continue to be man-hour intensive and many times run from one year into the next.

Marijuana continues to be the most common drug seized by HUNT. Marijuana is a gateway drug, which is regularly seized when seizing other illicit drugs. HUNT arrest records and treatment admissions in Northeast Michigan show that marijuana continues to be the drug of choice. During the year 2000, HUNT also seized MDMA (commonly called Ecstasy), Ketamine, LSD, Psilocybin, Crack Cocaine, and Powder Cocaine, along with a number of prescription medications. A continued concern is the popularity of these drugs with young people. Prescription medication and specifically Oxycodone, is a growing concern. Oxycodone, a prescription pain medication, is gaining in popularity and is very addictive. Suspects who have legal prescriptions make a substantial profit from the sale of the drug and this compounds the problem.

HUNT receives a great deal of support from the communities in Northeast Michigan. The support comes in the form of contributions, to help run the operation, as well as tips and information, which lead to arrests of narcotics traffickers and other criminals. HUNT also receives a large amount of support from local, state, and federal law enforcement officials. Local and state law enforcement officers in Northeast Michigan have been our biggest allies providing intelligence information, as well as assistance in executing arrests warrants and search warrants. HUNT seeks assistance from federal law enforcement officers whenever necessary.

HUNT officers pride themselves in working with local law enforcement agencies in a coordinated effort in enforcing not only narcotics crime but other criminal activity. HUNT officers provide surveillance expertise, specialized equipment, and undercover officer operations for various investigations while assisting local agencies. HUNT also works with local school officials in assistance with narcotics associated problems and trends. HUNT has initiated contact with treatment centers and shared information on narcotics trends in Northeast Michigan, as well as other parts of the state.

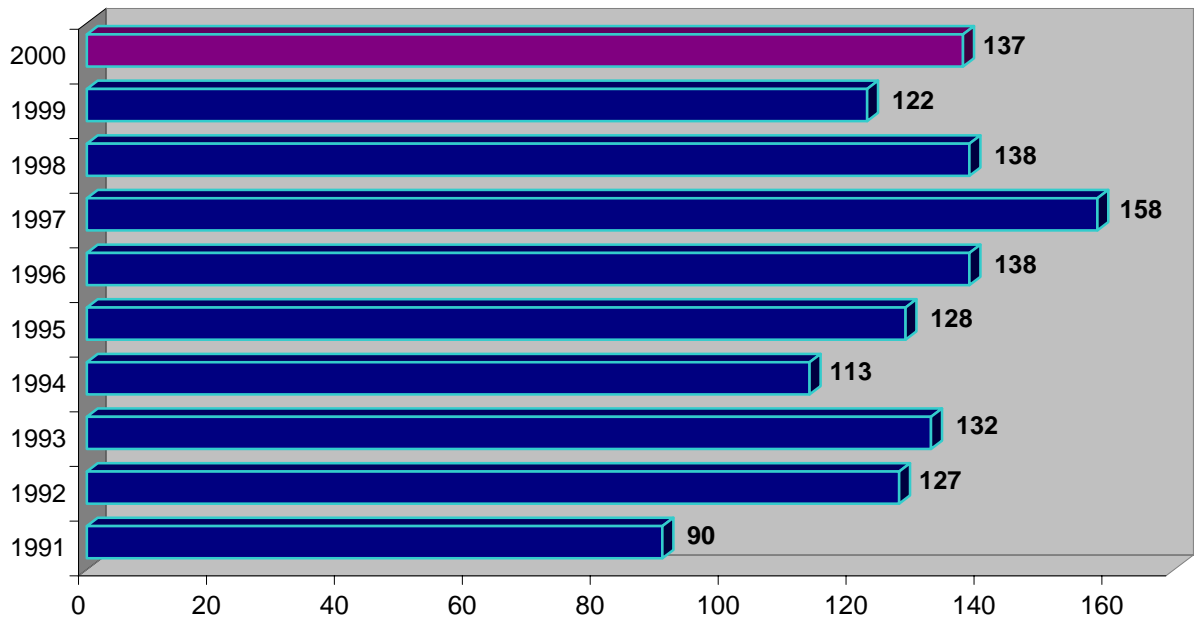
This annual report indicates that drugs are an ongoing problem in Northeast Michigan. HUNT has worked alongside law enforcement agencies, school officials, treatment centers, and citizen, to make a cooperative effort to combat the problem.

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Performance

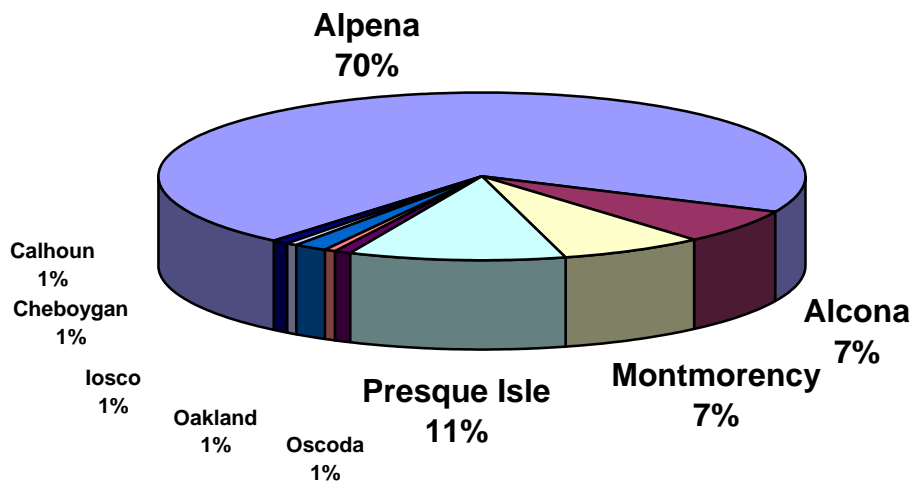
<b>Criminal Investigations</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Arrests</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Arrest Counts</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Intelligence Reports</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>Searches Warrants</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Firearms Seized</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Street Value of Drugs Seized</b>	<b>\$ 98,617</b>

## Investigations



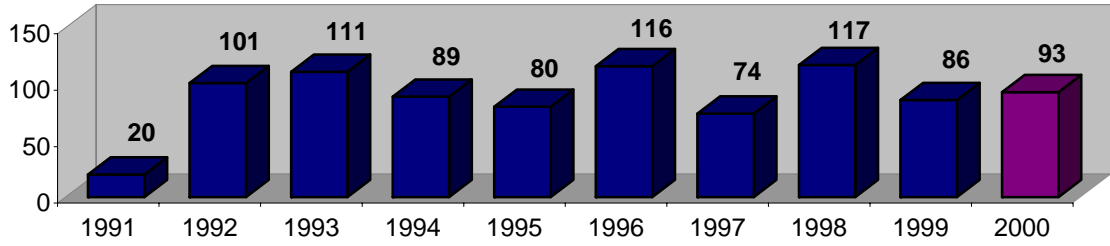
Year	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Investigations	90	127	132	113	128	138	158	138	122	137

## Investigations by County



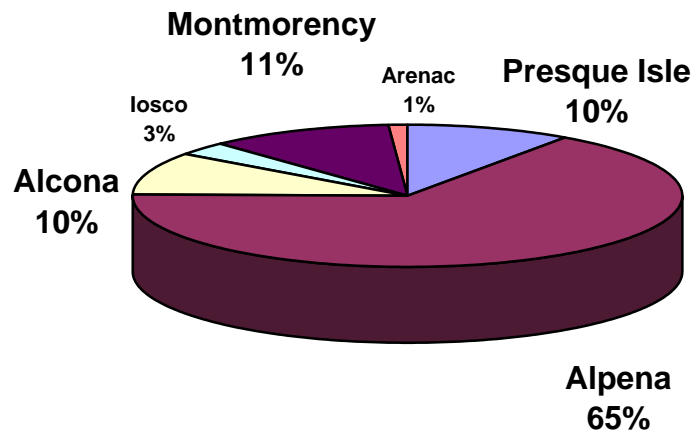
Alcona	Alpena	Calhoun	Cheboygan	Iosco	Montmorency	Oakland	Oscoda	Presque Isle
9	97	1	1	2	10	1	1	15

## Persons Arrested



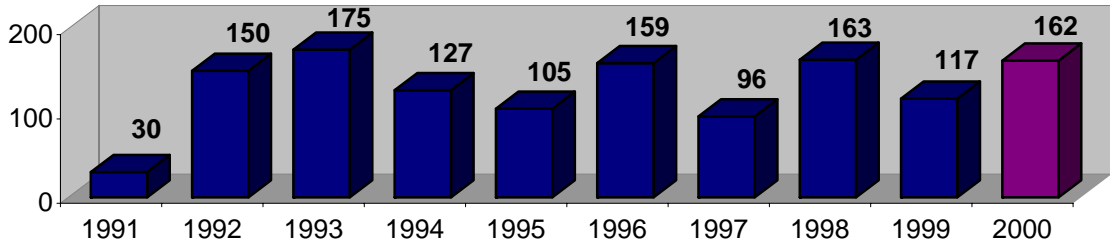
Year	Persons Arrested
1991	20
1992	101
1993	111
1994	89
1995	80
1996	116
1997	74
1998	117
1999	86
2000	93

## Persons Arrested by County



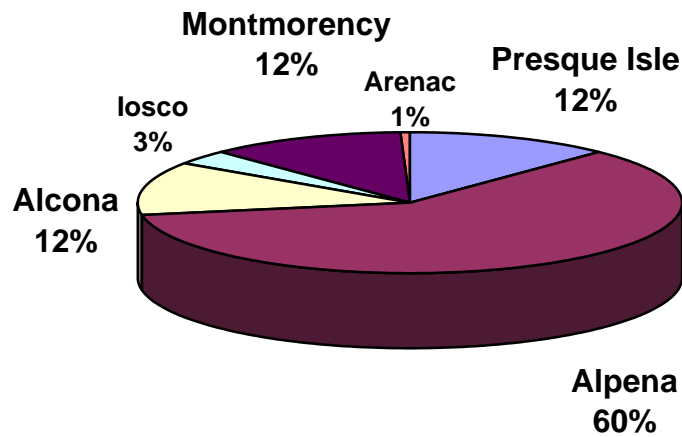
County	Arrested Persons
Alcona	9
Iosco	3
Alpena	61
Arenac	1
Montmorency	10
Presque Isle	9

## Arrest Counts



Year	Arrest Counts
1991	30
1992	150
1993	175
1994	127
1995	105
1996	159
1997	96
1998	163
1999	117
2000	162

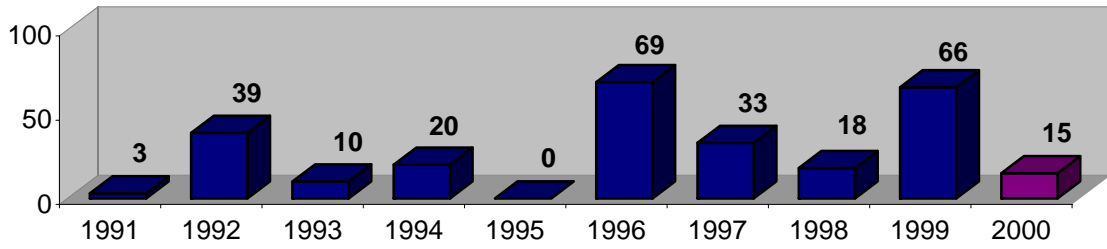
## Arrest Counts by County



County	Arrest Counts
Alcona	20
Alpena	97
Arenac	1
Iosco	5
Montmorency	19
Presque Isle	20

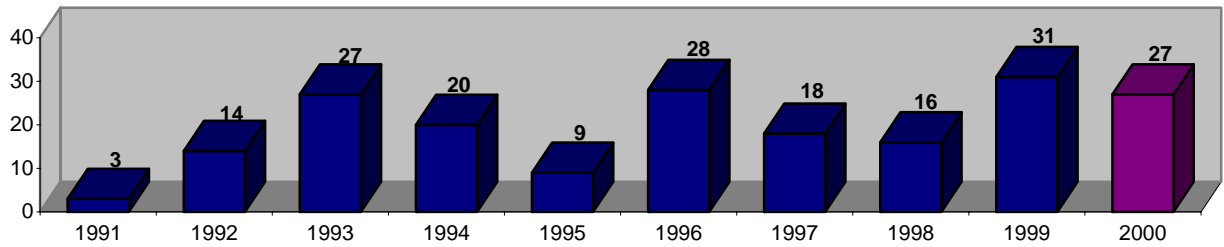


## Firearms Seized



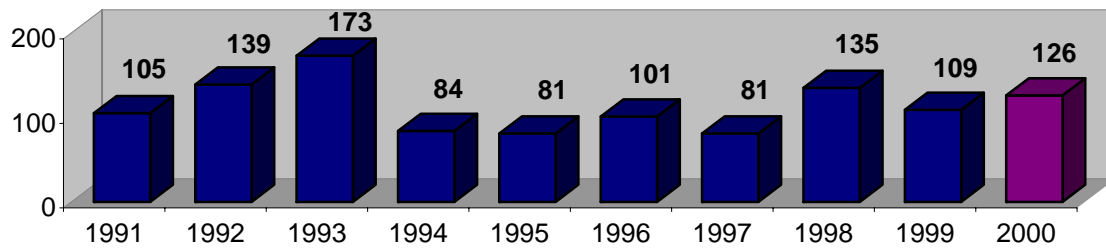
Year	Firearms Seized
1991	3
1992	39
1993	10
1994	20
1995	0
1996	69
1997	33
1998	18
1999	66
2000	15

## Search Warrants



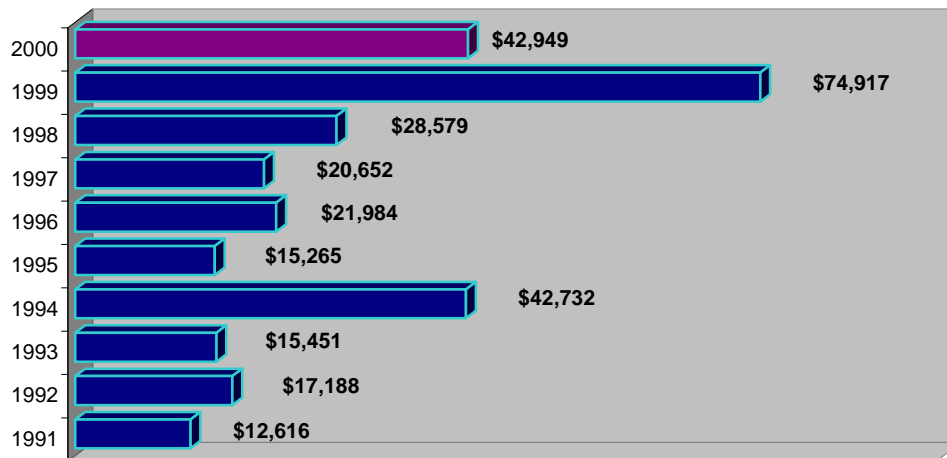
Year	Search Warrants
1991	3
1992	14
1993	27
1994	20
1995	9
1996	28
1997	18
1998	16
1999	31
2000	27

## Intelligence Reports



Year	Intelligence Reports
1991	105
1992	139
1993	173
1994	84
1995	81
1996	101
1997	81
1998	135
1999	109
2000	126

## Forfeiture Proceeds



Year	Forfeiture Proceeds
1991	\$12,616
1992	\$17,188
1993	\$15,451
1994	\$42,732
1995	\$15,265
1996	\$21,984
1997	\$20,652
1998	\$28,579
1999	\$74,917
2000	\$42,949

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Funding Sources (1999/2000 Fiscal Year)

<b>Michigan State Police -----</b>	<b>\$212,830</b>
<b>Federal Grant -----</b>	<b>\$128,260</b>
<b>Alpena County -----</b>	<b>\$ 49,490</b>
<b>City of Alpena -----</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>
<b>Alcona County -----</b>	<b>\$ 19,000</b>
<b>Montmorency County -----</b>	<b>\$ 19,000</b>
<b>Presque Isle County -----</b>	<b>\$ 19,000</b>
<b>City of Rogers City -----</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<b>City of Onaway -----</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<b>HUNT Forfeiture, Interest, etc. -----</b>	<b>\$ 57,499</b>
<b>Total -----</b>	<b>\$540,079</b>

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## Significant Cases

In all HUNT investigations, attempts are made to work up the ladder and arrest the largest dealer possible. A great example of this is an investigation which began in the spring of 1999 and continued into the early part of 2000. The investigation began with small purchases of marijuana from a suspect who lived in the Glennie area of Alcona County. Through this investigation, the suspect's source (suspect #2) was identified, and purchases of marijuana were also made from him. Through surveillance, HUNT officers identified his source (suspect #3), who also lived in the Glennie area. During the early part of 2000, a search warrant was executed at suspect #3's residence. HUNT officers seized three long guns and a small amount of marijuana, and identified his source (suspect #4), who lived on the county line of Alcona and Iosco. A search warrant was executed at suspect #4's residence and HUNT officers seized approximately one pound of marijuana, two long guns, four hundred, sixty dollars (\$460.00), and a vehicle. During the execution of the search warrant, two people (suspects #5 & #6) were identified as supplying suspect #4 with marijuana. Suspects #5 & #6 were living in the Saginaw area. The suspects were transporting the marijuana to Glennie from Saginaw where it was sold to suspect #4. Two purchases of marijuana were made from suspects #5 & #6. The first purchase was for a pound of marijuana and the second was for one and a half pounds. After the second purchase, the suspects were arrested. Their source (suspect #7) was identified and the suspects were turned over to the Bay Area Narcotics Team to further the investigation. Six suspects were arrested in this investigation, four of which were residing in the Glennie, Michigan area.

Part of HUNT's job is the development and documentation of information regarding narcotics and related crime. Many times there is not enough information developed to open an investigation or make an arrest. Sometimes it takes years before an investigation is open and suspects are arrested. This was the case in March of 2000 when HUNT began an investigation into a suspect who had been selling marijuana for a number of years in the Hillman area of Montmorency County. In 1993 HUNT first received information of the suspect selling marijuana. HUNT received more information in 1997. After purchases of marijuana were made from the suspect in 2000, a search warrant was executed. HUNT officers seized approximately one half pound of marijuana, four hundred, seventy-two dollars (\$472.00), a hand gun, a 1999 Yamaha 4 wheel ATV, and a 1989 Buick. The suspect was believed to be selling approximately one pound of marijuana a week. Two suspects were arrested in this investigation.

During the past year, HUNT worked with other narcotics task forces in a number of investigations. One of which began in December of 1999 and continued through May of 2000. The investigation began with HUNT purchasing large quantities of LSD in Northeast Michigan. It was learned that the suspect was also selling large quantities of marijuana in the Alpena area. HUNT identified the source of the marijuana as living in the Pontiac area. The exchange of narcotics and cash normally took place in Standish. HUNT made two purchases of marijuana (in Standish) from the Pontiac suspect. The first purchase was for four pounds of marijuana and the second purchase for ten pounds of marijuana. During the second purchase, the suspect drove to Standish with

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## Significant Cases (Continued)

his girlfriend and their four children. The oldest child was five years old. The vehicle was stopped after the ten-pound purchase was made and two suspects were arrested. A consent search was obtained for their apartment in Pontiac, where more marijuana was seized. The Oakland County Family Independence Agency was contacted and briefed on the incident involving the minor children. HUNT was assisted by the Strike Team Investigative Narcotics Group (STING), which covers Arenac County, NET, a narcotics task force that covers Oakland County, and uniform officers from the Arenac County Sheriff Department and the Michigan State Police Post in West Branch. Two suspects were arrested in this investigation.

Each year, HUNT arrests suspects who have previously been arrested by HUNT. The year 2000 was no different. In January of 1999, HUNT arrested a suspect for delivery of marijuana. The suspect was a large-scale trafficker of marijuana in the Alpena area. He was yet to be sentenced when HUNT officers were receiving information of his continued activity in the distribution of marijuana. In June of 2000, HUNT received information that the suspect was bringing marijuana up to Alpena from the Detroit Metro area. HUNT officers, with assistance from the Alcona County Sheriff Department and the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena, stopped the vehicle in Curtis Township of Alcona County. HUNT officers seized one pound of marijuana, along with a 1997 Pontiac Bonneville. The suspect was arrested for possession with intent to deliver marijuana.

HUNT does not seize a lot of crack cocaine in Northeast Michigan, but had a significant seizure of the drug during the past year. The investigation started when a suspect from Saginaw made his first visit to Alpena, carrying crack cocaine, which he intended to sell. HUNT received information on the suspect and his possession of crack cocaine. HUNT obtained a search warrant for the apartment where the suspect was staying and seized approximately thirty rocks of crack cocaine, along with a small amount of marijuana. Two suspects were arrested in this investigation.

The illegal drug of choice in Northeast Michigan continues to be marijuana, but HUNT has seized a variety of other illegal drugs in the area. Some of these drugs are already popular in other parts of the state and are making their way to Northeast Michigan. A big concern with these drugs is their popularity among young people. In December of 2000, a HUNT undercover officer met in Alpena with suspects from the Southeast Michigan area and purchased 194 pills of MDMA, also known as Ecstasy, one gram of Ketamine, and 47 hits of LSD in Geltab form. Officers arrested two of the suspects, and seized an additional 58 pills of MDMA, 2.5 grams of Ketamine, 39 hits of LSD, and over a half ounce of marijuana. There were two different colors of MDMA pills purchased, orange and white. Lab analysis showed the orange pills were not MDMA, but contained PCP and methamphetamine. It was the first time in recent memory that the Michigan State Police Crime Laboratory in Grayling had analyzed and identified a drug as PCP. The suspects, knowing the drugs were not readily available in Northeast Michigan, planned on making a lot of money when selling them in Alpena. This trip was the first trip they had made to Alpena and were planning to continue the trips on a regular basis.

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## Significant Cases (Continued)

HUNT prides itself in using a cooperative and coordinated effort in narcotics enforcement. An investigation that started in 1998 and culminated in 2000, is a great example of this type of coordinated effort. It started in 1998 when HUNT officers received a large number of tips regarding the distribution of marijuana and cocaine in Alpena County. In the early part of summer of 1999, HUNT officers were able to make purchases of marijuana from one of the main suspects distributing drugs in Alpena Township. HUNT officers obtained two search warrants and seized a small amount of marijuana and over six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) in currency, along with digital scales and packaging material. The Alpena County Sheriffs Department assisted HUNT in the execution of the search warrants. The investigation into this narcotics organization continued and the source bringing the marijuana and cocaine into Alpena was identified. The suspect was a former Alpena resident, who was currently living in Emmet County. It was determined that the suspect was bringing ten to twenty pounds of marijuana and ounce quantities of cocaine into the Alpena area on a monthly basis. These transactions had been going on for a couple of years. HUNT contacted the Office of Drug Enforcement Administration in Saginaw for assistance. HUNT worked with the DEA and a federal indictment was issued on the suspect in Emmet County for conspiracy to deliver marijuana and cocaine. HUNT officers contacted the Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement Team (SANE) who assisted in obtaining a search warrant for the residence in Emmet County. HUNT assisted the DEA in arresting the suspect in Emmet County on the indictment and also executed the search warrant at the suspect's residence. HUNT officers seized approximately twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) worth of property from the home, along with a small amount of marijuana. The Michigan State Police Post in Petoskey and the Emmet County Sheriff Department also assisted in the execution of the search warrant. The investigation continued and the Emmet County suspect's source was identified and found to be living in an apartment in Novi. The DEA obtained a federal search warrant for the Novi apartment. HUNT and NET, an Oakland County task force, assisted in the execution of the search warrant. The DEA seized a large quantity of marijuana, fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in cash, and two handguns from the suspect. The suspect was later indicted and arrested for conspiracy to deliver marijuana and cocaine. In all, two people were arrested for delivery of marijuana on state charges and two people received federal indictments for conspiracy to deliver marijuana and cocaine. The Emmet County suspect and the Novi suspect were both sentenced to federal prison.

HUNT's primary service is narcotics enforcement, but it continues to expand its role in assisting local police agencies in other crimes. One example is the assistance provided to the Presque Isle County Sheriff Department in a breaking and entering case. Suspects had broken in to Besser Bell, and caused in excess of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000.00) in damage. During the summer of 2000, HUNT received information from two informants relating to the breaking and entering. Both informants identified two suspects who had committed the crime. HUNT officers contacted the Presque Isle County Sheriff Department with the information. The Sheriff Department requested HUNT officers to tape record a conversation between one of the informants and one of the suspects discussing the crime. A third suspect was identified during the audio-recorded conversation. The third suspect was found to be on parole. His parole

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## Significant Cases (Continued)

agent was contacted. The parole agent scheduled a meeting in which HUNT officers and a detective from the Presque Isle County Sheriff Department were present. The suspect was interviewed and confirmed what the informants had reported to HUNT. HUNT officers assisted in rounding up the other two suspects. The suspects were interviewed and confessed to the crime. The Presque Isle County Sheriff Department arrested the two suspects for breaking and entering with intent.

The preceding paragraphs are highlights of HUNT's activity during the year, but are a small number of HUNT's overall investigations. They show the quality of HUNT investigation and the impact that HUNT has on narcotics and other crime in Northeast Michigan.

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## Conclusion

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team would like to thank the citizens that we serve for their support and commitment to improving the quality of life in the communities we live. The successes of HUNT are in large part due to the cooperation and support of those we serve.