



Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

Annual Report - 2011

Contents/Overview

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team was established in 1990 as a multi-jurisdictional task force. The mission of the team is the enforcement of controlled substance laws and the reduction of associated criminal activity in the Northeastern Michigan counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle. The team is operated under the direction of the HUNT Board of Directors, consisting of prosecuting attorneys and top law enforcement officials in the four county area and the Seventh District of the Michigan State Police.

The team consists of seven detectives/undercover officers from local police agencies, as well as a detective sergeant and a detective lieutenant from the Michigan State Police. All of these detectives have been specifically trained in narcotics and special investigations, undercover operations, surveillance, and raid entry.

During the team's 21 years of service, HUNT has removed nearly 8 million dollars worth of illegal drugs from the streets of the community, as well as 412 illegal firearms. A total of 3,160 investigations have been initiated resulting in the arrest of 1,699 felons, 448 misdemeanants, and 438 fugitives.

During 2011 HUNT encountered their first meth lab and handled a total of 3 during the year. The team also encountered their first psilocybin mushroom growing operation in 2011.

Synthetic drugs became alarmingly present, some of which were legal, and some were not. Marijuana continues to be the most commonly found illegal substance, followed by prescription opiates.

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Board of Directors

Board of Directors

<i>Chairman</i>	Tom Weichel Prosecuting Attorney, Alcona County, (January-July)
	Edward Black Prosecuting Attorney, Alpena County. (July-December)
<i>Vice Chairman</i>	F/Lt. Mike Caldwell* Alpena Post Commander, Michigan State Police
<i>Legal Advisor</i>	Rick Steiger Prosecuting Attorney, Presque Isle County, (January-July)
	Tom Weichel Prosecuting Attorney, Alcona County, (July-December)
<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Steve Kieliszewski Sheriff, Alpena County
	Doug Atchison Sheriff, Alcona County
	Terri Case Prosecuting Attorney, Montmorency County
	Donald Edwards Sheriff, Montmorency County
	Joel Jett Interim Chief, Alpena Police Department, (July-December)
	Kim Miller Chief, Alpena City Police Department, (January-June)
	Robert Paschke Sheriff, Presque Isle County
	Matthew Quaine Chief, Rogers City Police Department
	Captain Russell Smith 7th District Commander, Michigan State Police

*Mike Caldwell was promoted to MSP 7th District Inspector in late December, succeeded by F/Lt. Mike Hahn.

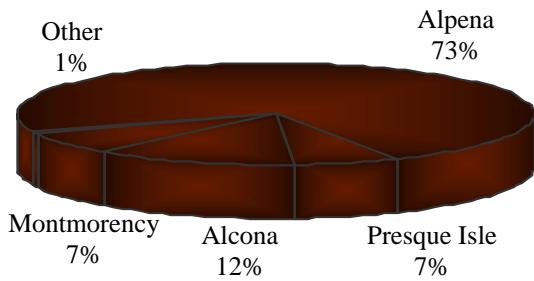
HUNT initiated 209 new investigations in 2011, which is 19% over the average for the past ten years. Of those investigations, 118 were drug related (listed below), with the manufacture and distribution of marijuana being the most commonly found in our area. In addition to the drug related cases, 59 cases involved the location and arrest of fugitives, 18 cases were providing assistance to other departments, and the remaining cases included the sale of stolen firearms, criminal sexual conduct, threats/harassment, witness intimidation, parole/probation violation, and driving while license suspended.

As a result of those investigations, 177 people have been arrested with 14 still pending arrest, providing an arrest to case ratio for the year, of 91%.

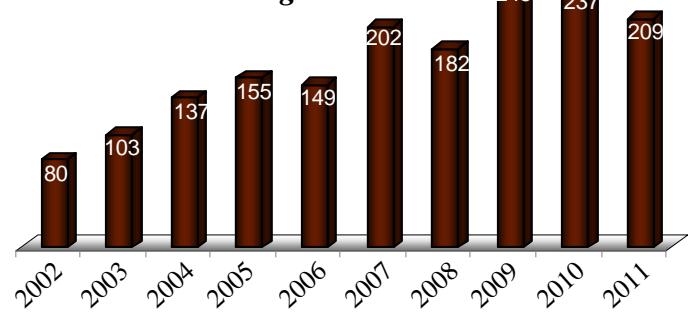
Narcotics Related Investigations

Alprazolam Delivery	1	Marijuana Delivery	25	Suboxone Delivery	1
Alprazolam Possession	1	Marijuana Manufacture	25	Synthetics Delivery	5
Cocaine Delivery	2	Marijuana Possession	7	Synthetics Possession	1
Codeine Possession	1	Methadone Possession	1	Vicodin Delivery	12
Darvocet Possession	1	Methamphetamine Delivery	2	Xanax Delivery	2
Dilaudid Delivery	1	Methamphetamine Manufacture	2	Larceny of Prescription Meds	2
Ecstasy Delivery	2	Methamphetamine Possession	1	Possess Drug Paraphernalia	1
Fentanyl Delivery	1	Morphine Delivery	6	Overdose	1
Heroin Delivery	2	Morphine Possession	1	Prescription Fraud	5
Heroin Possession	1	Oxycodone Possession	1	Deliver Controlled Substance Causing Death	2
Klonopin Delivery	1	Percocet Delivery	1		

Investigations by Jurisdiction



Total Annual Investigations



Arrested Persons

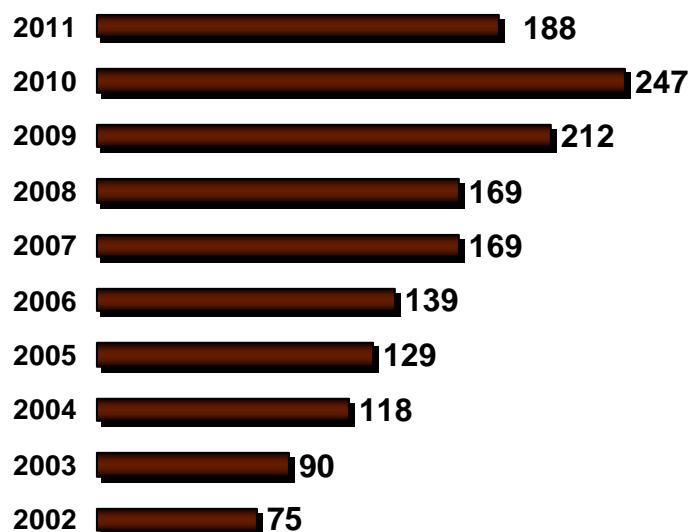
Arrest Stats

Total Persons Arrested	188
Male	117
Female	71
Over 18	186
Under 18	2
On Parole at time of Arrest	12
On Probation at time of Arrest	34
Repeat Offender	128

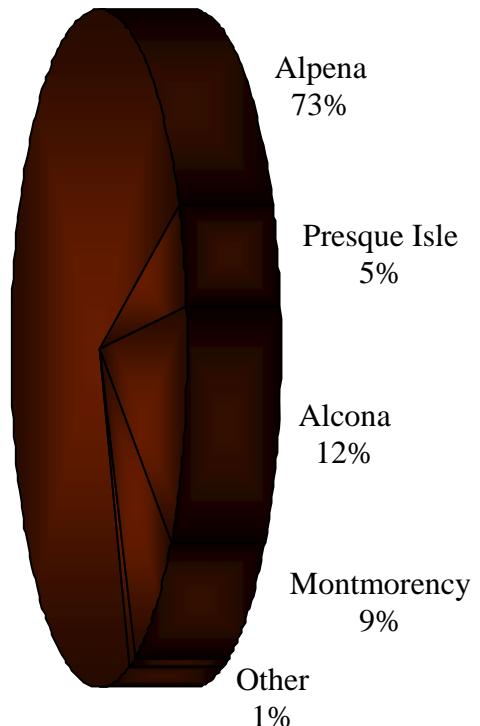
HUNT arrested 188 people in 2011, which is 18% over the average for the past 10 years. Of those arrested, 68% were repeat offenders. The ratio of male to female arrests was 62% male and 38% female.

Some of these individuals were arrested as a result of HUNT investigations, some were fugitives, or other agency warrants, and some were bench warrants.

Annual Arrested Persons



Arrests by Jurisdiction



Arrest Counts

Narcotics Related Arrest Counts

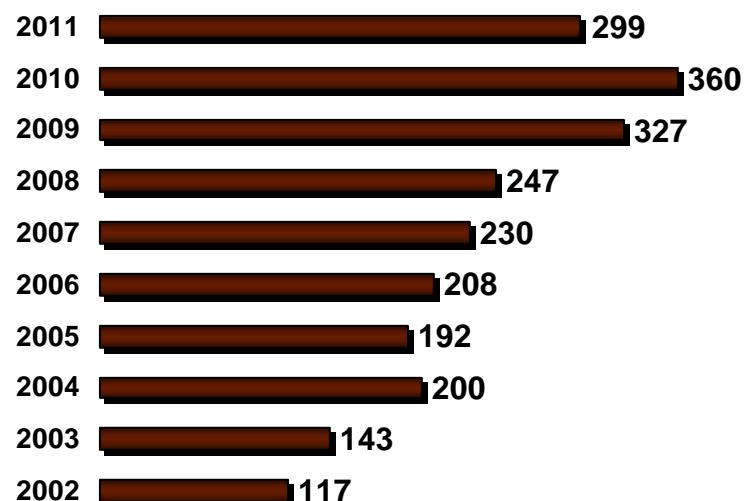
Cocaine Delivery	4
Cocaine Conspiracy	2
Cocaine Possession	3
Ecstasy Delivery	3
Ecstasy Conspiracy	3
Fentanyl Delivery	1
Fentanyl Conspire to Deliver	2
Fentanyl Possession	1
Heroin Delivery	12
Heroin Delivery Causing Death	4
Heroin Conspiracy	2
Hydrocodone (Vicodin) Delivery	20
Hydrocodone Obtain by Fraud	5
Hydrocodone Possession	1

K2 Delivery	3
K2 Possession	1
Marijuana Delivery	37
Marijuana Conspiracy	3
Marijuana Manufacture	27
Marijuana Possession	11
Methadone Delivery	3
Methadone Delivery Causing Death	1
Methadone Possession	3
Methamphetamine Delivery	5
Methamphetamine Conspiracy	5
Methamphetamine Manufacture	2
Methamphetamine Conspiracy	2

Methamphetamine Lab	2
Methamphetamine Possession	2
Morphine Delivery	7
Morphine Possession	1
Oxycodone Obtain by Fraud	1
Oxycodone Possession	2
Prescription Meds Delivery	11
Prescription Meds Possession	1
Psilocybin Mushrooms Manufacture	1
Psilocybin Mushrooms Possession	1
Maintaining a Drug House	13
Larceny by Conversion	1
Larceny of Prescription Meds	1

Annual Arrest Counts

Of the 299 arrest counts during 2011, 199 were felony charges, 29 were misdemeanor charges, and 71 were fugitives. A total of 210 of these were drug related as listed above. The other charges included criminal sexual conduct, witness—retaliating against, stalking, resist and obstruct, tampering with evidence, parole violation, felony firearm, driving on suspended license, and various others.



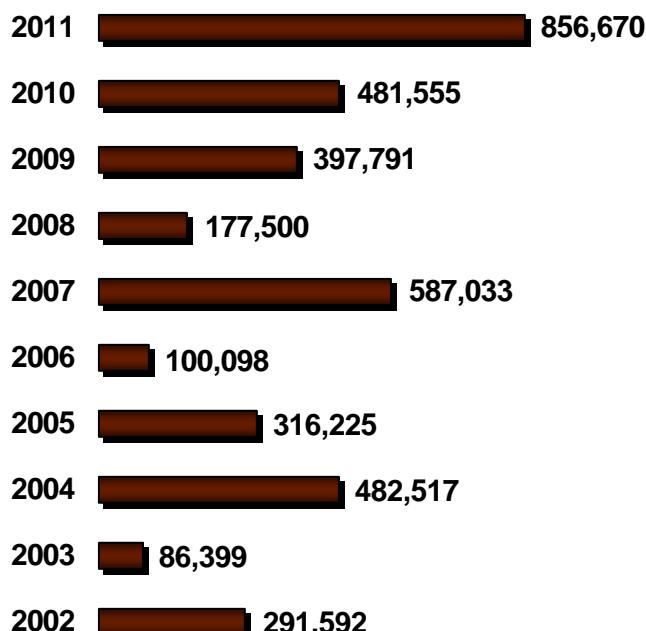
Drugs Seized

HUNT seized \$856,670 worth of illegal drugs during 2011, which is a record in the history of the team, and 61% over the average for the past ten years. Drugs are seized throughout the year by means of controlled/undercover purchases, possession during traffic stops, search warrants, HEMP flights, consent searches, etc.

Marijuana remains the most commonly seized drug in Northeastern Michigan. During the year, 643 marijuana plants were eradicated, with 411 of those being from indoor grow operations, and 232 being from outdoor plots. Hydrocodone (Vicodin) was the most commonly seized prescription drug in 2011.

According to NIDA's website, Marijuana is the most commonly used controlled substance among 12th graders nationwide, followed by Vicodin.

Annual Drug Seizures

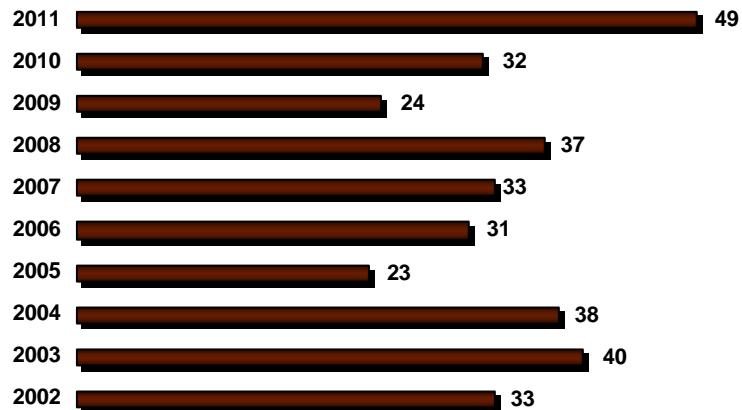


2011 Drug Seizures		
Drug	Seizures	Street Value
Cocaine	36 grams	3,500
Ecstasy	4 units	100
Fentanyl	5 units	75
Hashish	30 grams	300
Heroin	2.61 grams	652
Hydrocodone	236 units	2,757
K2	76.5 grams	1,913
Marijuana	16198.39 grams	161,984
Marijuana Plants	643	643,000
Methadone	27.5 units	413
Methamphetamine	5.51 grams	551
Morphine	44 units	660
Oxycodone	105 units	2,985
Psilocybin Mushrooms	575.9 grams	34,554
Synthetic Substances	798.2 grams	1,596
Various Prescription Pills	850 units	1,630
Street Value of Drugs Seized		\$856,670

Searches / Seizures

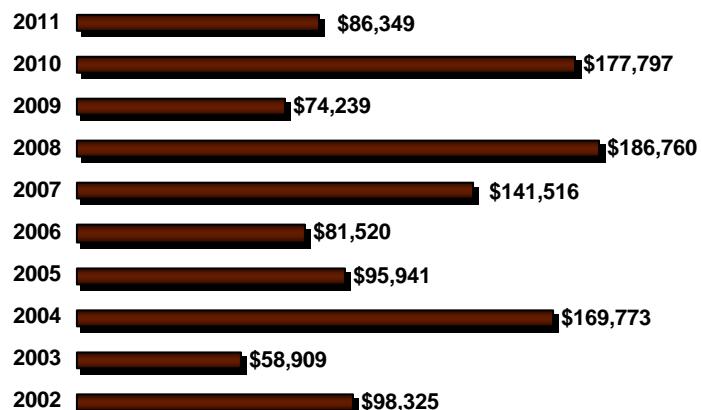
HUNT conducted 49 search warrants in 2011. Most of the search warrants were conducted to obtain evidence of narcotics crimes, while some were conducted for medical records, cell phone records, and/or blood samples in overdose cases. As a result, 41 illegal firearms were seized, as well as drugs and drug trafficking evidence.

Search Warrants



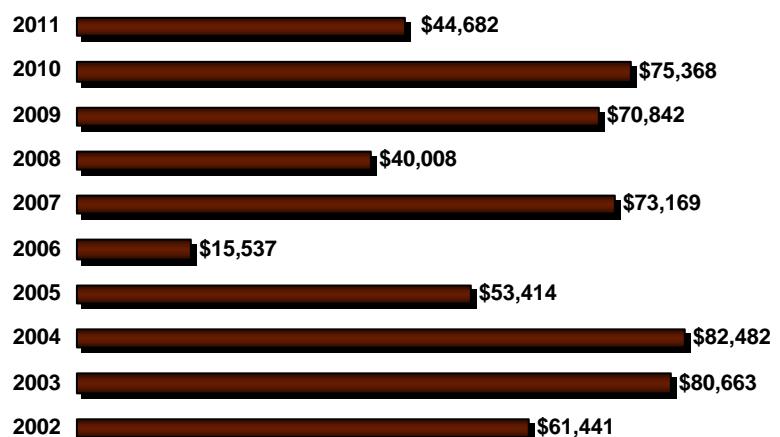
HUNT seized \$86,349 worth of property during the year. This property consisted of 16 vehicles, \$12,218 in cash, 26 cell phones, and other items used to facilitate drug trafficking operations. Some of these items will be sold at public auction, some will be destroyed, some will be retained by HUNT, and some will be returned in settlement agreements.

Property Seizures



A total of \$44,682 in forfeiture proceeds were adjudicated during the year. These proceeds were obtained through public sale of seized items, retention of seized cash, and settlement agreements. Some of the adjudicated property was seized during previous years, and some during 2011.

Forfeiture Proceeds



Significant Activity

DOCTOR SHOPPING

In February of 2011, HUNT was contacted by a local dentist who advised that he had seen a patient who requested a prescription for Vicodin. The dentist had become suspicious of this request and had run a MAPS report (Michigan Automated Prescription System) which indicated that the patient had been receiving prescriptions from multiple doctors and had listed multiple different home addresses.

HUNT initiated an investigation and served search warrants on area pharmacies and doctor's offices for prescription records involving this suspect. The investigation revealed that the suspect had been seeing multiple doctors and claiming various symptoms in order to receive prescriptions. She later confessed that she was addicted to opiate pain killers. She advised that she was obtaining different dosages of the same drug, so that her insurance would still pay for the multiple prescriptions. She advised that she'd been providing the doctors with symptoms of pain due to fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis, and other ailments that would be hard to diagnose, and therefore lead to prescriptions for the pain.

The suspect was ultimately charged with four counts of obtaining prescriptions by fraud which she subsequently plead guilty to. She was sentenced to time in jail and fines and costs.

DELIVERY OF HEROIN CAUSING DEATH

In late December of 2010, HUNT received a complaint from the Montmorency County Sheriff Department, of an overdose death that had occurred in Montmorency County. An investigation ensued into 2011, in which it was determined that two individuals had obtained the lethal heroin in Otsego County and had delivered it to the overdose victim in Montmorency County. The source was identified in Otsego County and was charged in Otsego County, with delivery of a controlled substance causing death. Both individuals who delivered the heroin were charged in Montmorency County with delivery of a controlled substance causing death. The two Montmorency County suspects (following plea agreements) were each sentenced to one year in jail with probation following. The Otsego County suspect (also following a plea agreement) was sentenced to 66 months to 20 years in prison.

MARIJUANA DISPENSARY CEASED

In April of 2011, HUNT initiated an investigation into the "Utilized Space", a medical marijuana dispensary in Alcona County. A controlled purchase of marijuana was made from a vendor within the facility who was not a registered caregiver for the HUNT agent. The HUNT agent was not asked to produce any documentation of being a medical marijuana cardholder, either when he/she entered the facility, nor when he/she purchased the marijuana. The owner/operator of the facility was subsequently charged with maintaining a drug house. The case resulted in the prosecution on the criminal charge being deferred and a stipulated order being issued stating that the facility could not be used for the distribution of marijuana. A restraining order was obtained preventing them from having and/or selling marijuana within the facility.

Significant Activity

3 METH LABS DISCOVERED/DISMANTLED

In July of 2011, HUNT conducted a controlled purchase of methamphetamine from a female subject in Alpena County. Several days later a controlled purchase of methamphetamine was conducted from the female suspect's husband. Following this second controlled purchase, both subjects, who were in the company of a juvenile child, were contacted and arrested. Subsequent to their arrest, a consent search was conducted on their vehicle, where a mobile meth lab was discovered in the trunk. During earlier surveillance of this vehicle, the juvenile child who was present at the time of arrest, had been observed travelling in the vehicle with her mother, the female suspect. Both of the suspects were convicted and sentenced to up to 20 years in prison.

In May of 2011, HUNT conducted a controlled purchase of methamphetamine. Subsequent surveillance of the suspect's residence by HUNT officers indicated drug activity, which led to a search warrant being conducted at the residence. The search warrant revealed a clandestine meth lab in the detached garage at the residence. Two individuals were arrested and charged with manufacture of methamphetamine. Both subjects ultimately plead guilty to manufacturing methamphetamine, and the homeowner plead to maintaining a meth lab as well. One was sentenced to one year in jail and the other (homeowner) to 42 months to 20 years in prison.

In November of 2011, during the investigation of Sudafed purchases at local pharmacies, HUNT discovered a meth lab in Montmorency County. This investigation resulted in two individuals being arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine (court case ongoing at the time of this writing.)

DELIVERY OF HEROIN CAUSING DEATH

A 2009 complaint regarding the overdose death of a 31 year old male in Alpena County concluded in 2011. The investigation led officers to a suspect who was believed to have delivered the lethal heroin to the victim and also to an individual believed to have been that suspect's source for the heroin. Following an extensive investigation which led into 2011, both individuals were charged with delivery of a controlled substance causing death. The suspect who delivered the heroin was ultimately convicted of delivery of heroin, and sentenced to 17 months to 20 years in prison. The suspected source was acquitted by jury trial.

HEMP FLIGHTS

HEMP flights during 2011 resulted in the eradication of 266 marijuana plants and 85 ounces of processed marijuana from 14 different marijuana growing operations. A total of 30 of the plants were growing in Alcona County, 54 in Alpena County, 104 in Montmorency County, and 78 in Presque Isle County.

Also seized as a result were 153.5 grams of psilocybin mushrooms from an indoor mushroom growing operation.

HEMP flights resulted in 15 individuals being arrested. Six of those individuals were medical marijuana cardholders, that were operating outside the limits of their guidelines under the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act.

Funding Sources

<i>Funding Sources</i>	
Alcona County	97,317
Alpena City	82,380
Alpena County	75,912
Presque Isle County	87,108
Alpena Township	1,000
Sanborn Township	375
Michigan State Police	270,883
O.D.C.P. Grant	134,850
Stimulus Grant	66,190
Interest	343
Restitution	3,891
Adjudicated Forfeiture Funds	75,878
Total Operating Costs	896,127

*The above figures reflect the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011

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