



2014 Annual Report

Contents

Overview	1
Board of Directors	2
Investigations	3
Arrests	4
Searches/Seizures	5
Public Affairs	6
Significant Activity	7
Funding Sources	8
Conclusion	9

1 Overview

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team (HUNT) is a multi-jurisdictional task force dedicated to the reduction of narcotics and narcotics related crimes, as well as providing general detective support to other law enforcement agencies. HUNT provides these services primarily to the counties of Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Presque Isle, in Northeastern Michigan.

HUNT was established in 1990 and is governed under an inter-local agreement between the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle, the cities of Alpena and Rogers City, and the Michigan State Police. HUNT is overseen by a board of directors made up of the prosecuting attorneys from the four counties and the law enforcement officials from the member departments.

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

During the team's 24 years of service, HUNT has removed over 9 million dollars worth of illegal drugs from the streets of the community, as well as 445 illegal firearms. A total of 3,637 investigations have been initiated by the team, resulting in the arrest of 1,898 felons, 496 misdemeanants, and 609 fugitives.

2014 proved to be a year of significant changes in illicit drug trends in Northeast Michigan. The distribution of heroin increased at compelling levels as did the use and manufacture of methamphetamine. Also the abuse and diversion of prescription opiate pain medications continue to be a significant factor.

Board of Directors 2

Chairman	Mr. Edward Black Alpena County Prosecuting Attorney
Vice Chairman	F/Lt. Mike Hahn Michigan State Police Alpena Post Commander
Legal Advisor	Mr. Thomas Weichel Alcona County Prosecuting Attorney
Secretary/Treasurer	Sheriff Steve Kieliszewski Alpena County
	Sheriff Doug Atchison Alcona County
	Ms. Terri Case Montmorency County Prosecuting Attorney
	Sheriff Donald Edwards Montmorency County
	Chief Joel Jett Alpena City Police Department
	Capt. Robert Lesneski Michigan State Police 7th District Commander
	Sheriff Robert Paschke Presque Isle County
	Chief Matthew Quaine Rogers City Police Department

3 Investigations

HUNT initiated 156 new investigations in 2014. Of those, 79 were drug related, 20 involved the location and arrest of fugitives, 48 were providing assistance to other departments, and the remaining cases included prostitution, weapons offenses, accessory to homicide, driving while license suspended, and various other crimes.

The number of heroin related cases handled this year increased by 502% over the number of heroin cases from the previous 3 years.

The number of meth lab investigations also increased in 2014 as they have the past few years. These investigations are time intensive and require significant additional training for the detectives in order to handle the labs safely.

DRUG RELATED INVESTIGATIONS

Heroin Delivery	16
Heroin Possession	1
Hydrocodone Delivery	7
Lyrica Delivery	1
Marijuana Delivery	14
Marijuana Manufacturing	18
Marijuana Possession	4
Methamphetamine Lab	10
Morphine Delivery	2
Morphine Possession	1
Oxycodone Delivery	1
Oxycodone Possession	1
Prescription Fraud	2
Suboxone Possession	1

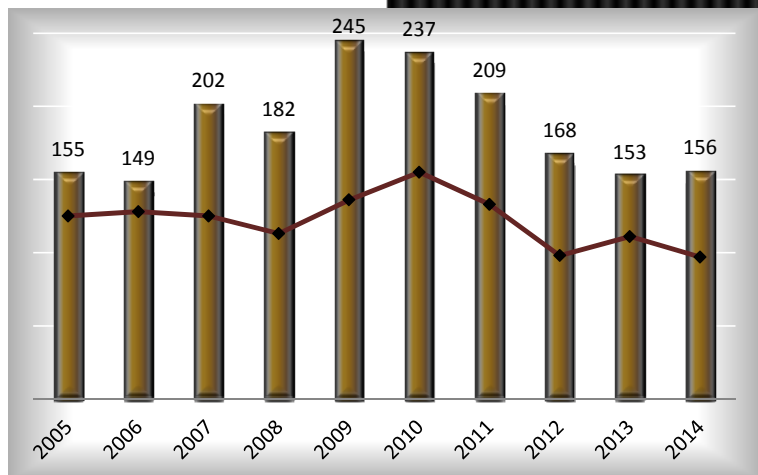
OTHER AGENCY ASSISTS

Alcona Sheriff Dept.	1
Alpena Police Dept.	10
Alpena Sheriff Dept.	2
DEA	1
MDOC	5
Montmorency Sheriff Dept.	4
Michigan State Police	12
Presque Isle Sheriff Dept.	1
Rogers City Police Dept.	1
SANE	4
STING	2
THUMB Narcotics	1
TNT	3
U.S. Marshall Service	1

Also on a steady incline is the number of requests for assistance from other agencies. In 2014, HUNT responded 48 times to assist other agencies, as compared to an average of 29 each the previous three years.

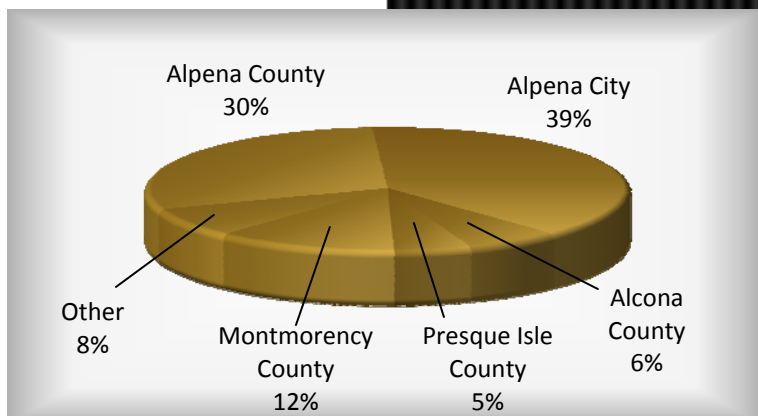
ANNUAL INVESTIGATION TRENDS

The chart to the right depicts the number of annual investigations for the past 10 years, as well as a trend line (1%) of officer hours. A total of 9,671 hours were spent during the year by officers investigating the 156 complaints initiated, as well as handling intelligence reports, tips from the web site or other agency officers, training, court, and public awareness campaigns. As a result of the 156 complaints initiated, 81 people have been arrested with 14 still pending arrests.



INVESTIGATIONS BY JURISDICTION

The city of Alpena is the largest municipality in HUNT's area of service. Therefore in many cases the city is where drug transactions are conducted, with the drugs subsequently being transported to the surrounding communities. Some of the team's investigations crossed county lines, while some of the activity in other counties was due to assistance to other agencies.

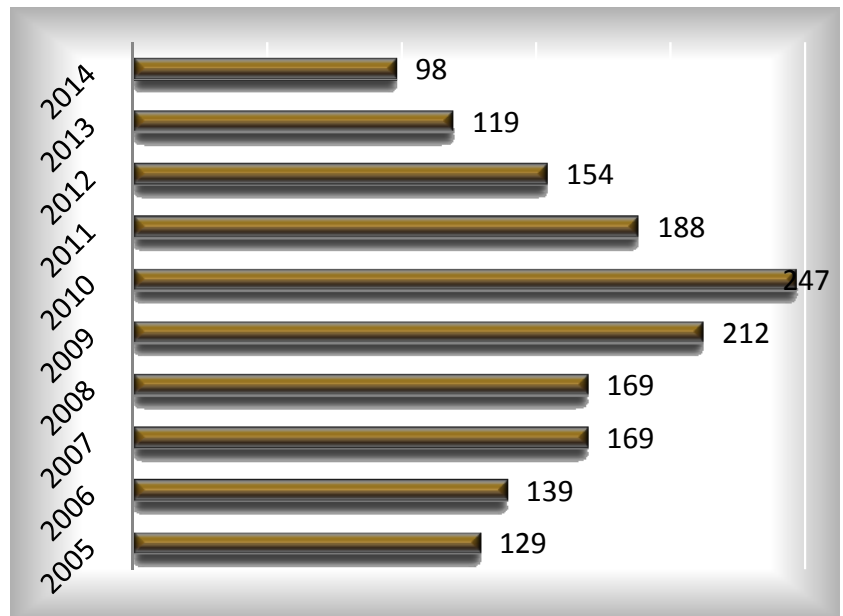


4 Arrests

HUNT arrested 98 people in 2014. Of those arrested, 78 (80%) were repeat offenders. The ratio of male to female arrests was 72% male and 28% female.

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

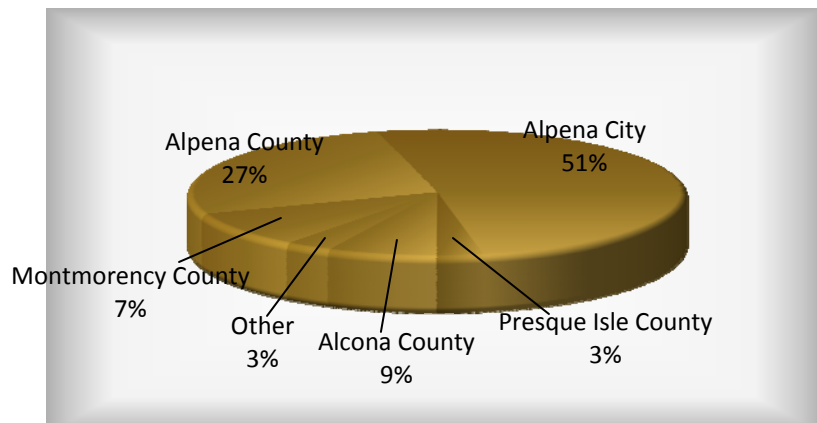
ANNUAL ARRESTED PERSONS



Arrest Stats

Total Persons Arrested	98
Male	71
Female	27
Over 18	97
Under 18	1
Repeat Offender	78

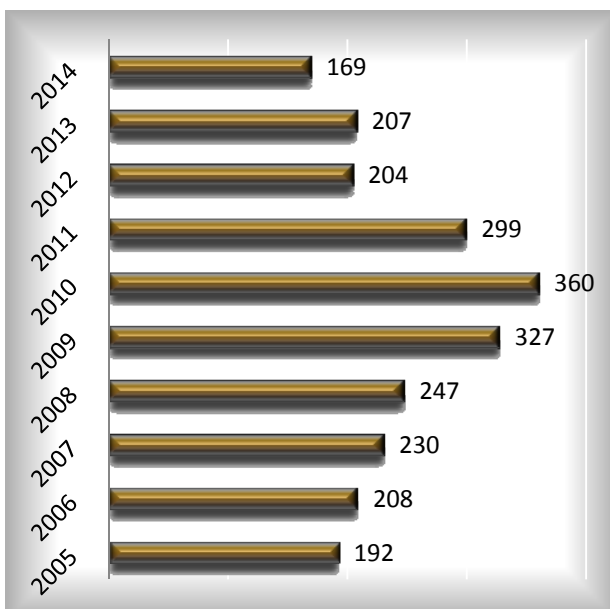
ARRESTS BY JURISDICTION



ARREST COUNTS

Of the 169 arrest counts during 2014, 125 were felony charges, 20 were misdemeanor, and 24 were fugitive related. A total of 130 of these were drug related as listed to the right. The other charges included felony firearm, witness intimidation, evidence tampering, prostitution, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, resist and obstruct, and accessory after the fact to homicide.

ANNUAL ARREST COUNTS



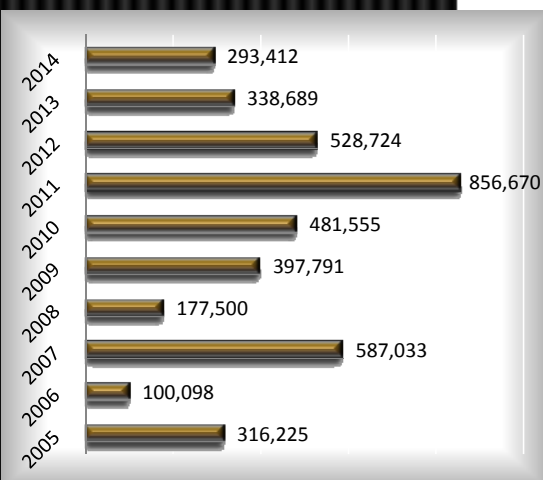
DRUG RELATED ARREST COUNTS

Cocaine Delivery	1
Cocaine Delivery Conspiracy	2
Heroin Delivery	23
Heroin Delivery Conspiracy	14
Heroin Conduct Criminal Enterprise	3
Heroin Possession	5
Hydrocodone Delivery	4
Lyrica Delivery	1
Marijuana Delivery	26
Marijuana Delivery Conspiracy	1
Marijuana Production	4
Marijuana Possession	10
Methamphetamine Lab	8
Methamphetamine Manufacture	3
Methamphetamine Conspiracy	4
Morphine Delivery	6
Morphine Possession	2
Oxycodone Delivery	4
Suboxone Delivery	5
Synthetic Marijuana Delivery Conspiracy	1
Maintain a Drug House	3

5 Searches/Seizures

HUNT seized \$293,412 worth of illegal drugs during 2014. Drugs are seized throughout the year by means of controlled/undercover purchases, possession during traffic stops or arrests, search warrants, HEMP flights, consent searches, etc.

ANNUAL DRUG SEIZURES

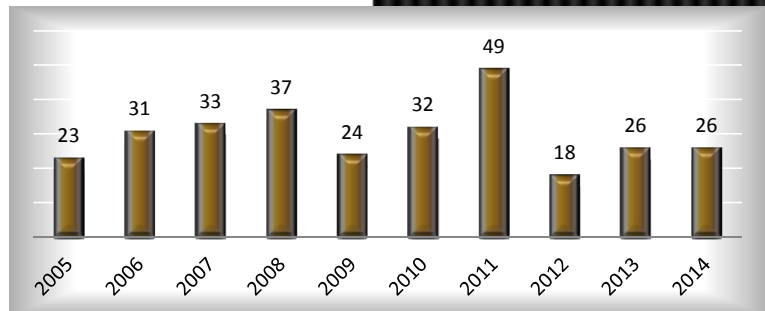


DRUGS SEIZED

Drug	Seizures	Street Value
Clonazepam	2 Units	\$4.00
Heroin	19 Grams	\$4,750.00
Hydrocodone	190 Units	\$2,850.00
Lyrica	32 Units	\$64.00
Marijuana	850.21 Grams	\$8,502.00
Marijuana	276 Plants	\$276,000.00
Morphine	17 Fluid Ounces	\$255.00
Oxycodone	51 Units	\$765.00
Suboxone	7 Units	\$70.00
THC Medibles	8 Units	\$80.00
Tramadol	28 Units	\$56.00
Other Prescriptions	16 Units	\$16.00

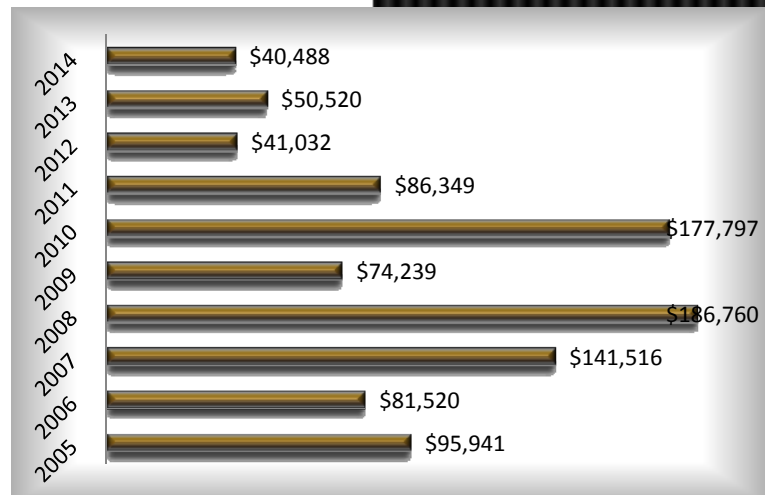
SEARCH WARRANTS

HUNT conducted 26 search warrants in 2014. Most of the search warrants were for residences/properties to collect evidence of narcotics activity, while some were for records. As a result, 6 illegal firearms were seized as well as drugs and drug trafficking evidence.



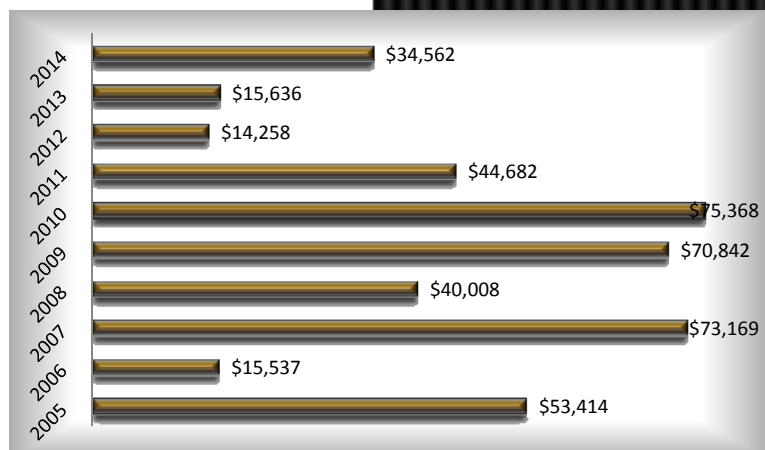
PROPERTY SEIZURES

HUNT seized \$40,488 worth of property during the year. This property consisted of 5 vehicles, one ATV, \$31,792 in cash, 11 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.



FORFEITURE PROCEEDS

A Total of \$34,562 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. A portion of the proceeds were expended for administrative expenses, auction fees, etc., with the remainder being utilized by the team for continued operation.



6 *Public Affairs*

HUNT's website was redesigned in 2014, to provide a fresh look with a user-friendly atmosphere. The website provides information such as board meeting dates, press releases, annual reports, and offers links to other sites for drug and drug abuse resources. The website also promotes the submittal of anonymous tips to be sent to the team's detectives. These tips are delivered via e-mail with no link being made to the sender.



PRESENTATIONS

A total of 14 presentations were given by HUNT for area special interest groups, fire fighters, school personnel, health care workers, and students. These presentations provide information regarding the recognition of meth labs and/or meth lab components (dump sites), signs of drug use and abuse, prescription drug diversion, etc., and promote the submittal of tips/information to HUNT via the web site or the team's toll free phone number. A total of 585 people from the community were present during these presentations in 2014.

PREVENTION

The team commander participates in the Alpena County Prevention Policy Board, in cooperation with Up North Prevention. The mission is to advance substance abuse prevention efforts. The focus is on current substance abuse issues such as prescription drug diversion, meth lab awareness, community education, etc.

YELLOW JUG

The team continues to participate in the "Yellow Jug Old Drugs" program sponsored by the Great Lakes Clean Water Organization. Unlike the other Yellow Jug drop points, HUNT is able to collect controlled substances that are no longer being utilized by patients, and dispose of them under the guidelines for controlled substances. During 2014 HUNT officers provided means for these drugs to be turned in at scheduled take-back events at Senior Centers and/or dropped off at the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 15,608 units of controlled substances were collected during the year, for processing and disposal by HUNT. These efforts are to prevent the drugs from ending up in the water supply, or in the hands of criminal drug traffickers.

Significant Activity

7

GAYLORD/ALPENA HEROIN TRAFFICKING RING

In early 2014 HUNT detectives received information that an Alpena resident was travelling to Gaylord to purchase heroin that he would return to Alpena and sell at the street level. HUNT detectives contacted the Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement Team (SANE) and initiated a joint investigation with them. HUNT detectives were able to locate the suspect vehicle prior to its departure from Alpena and surveilled the vehicle as it travelled to Gaylord. In Gaylord, the vehicle was observed by HUNT and SANE detectives as its occupants made contact with an individual at a local motel. The vehicle then travelled back toward Alpena, where a traffic stop was conducted. Within the vehicle were several people as well as a significant amount of heroin that was packaged for street sale. SANE detectives executed a search warrant at the motel room in Gaylord, which also revealed a significant amount of heroin packaged for street sale.

6 people were ultimately arrested in Alpena County on 12 counts including conspiracy to deliver heroin, delivery of heroin, possession with intent to deliver heroin, possession with intent to deliver marijuana, and aid and abet heroin delivery. The SANE Team had charges in Otsego County with regard to the delivery and possession of heroin by the individual in the motel room.

CONSPIRACY TO MANUFACTURE METH

In February of 2014, HUNT detectives learned that two suspects were travelling to different stores in Alpena in order to purchase precursor items used in the manufacturing of methamphetamine. Detectives were then able to conduct surveillance and observe the suspects purchase a number of the necessary components.

HUNT detectives subsequently executed search warrants at two separate residences in the city of Alpena. During the execution of the search warrants detectives located and seized evidence of methamphetamine production, as well as quantities of heroin, marijuana, prescription narcotics, and a firearm.

Both individuals were arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine and possession of heroin. One was additionally charged with felony firearm.

Significant Activity Continued

MARIJUANA TRAFFICKER ARRESTED

In June of 2014, HUNT began an investigation into a substantial amount of marijuana being sold in the city of Alpena. After several controlled purchases of marijuana from the suspect, a search warrant was conducted at her residence. During the search, a substantial amount of marijuana, packaged for sale and a substantial amount of cash was discovered. The investigation revealed that this individual was a medical marijuana card holder who was travelling to Gaylord on a regular basis and purchasing marijuana from a medical marijuana dispensary. She was then travelling back to Alpena with the marijuana, which she repackaged and sold from her residence, at the street level.

The individual was charged with 3 counts delivery of marijuana, possession with intent to deliver marijuana, and maintaining a drug house.

DRUG TRAFFICKING ENTERPRISE

In early 2014, an Alcona County Deputy who was a former HUNT detective, conducted a traffic stop which resulted in the seizure of narcotics from the vehicle. The deputy then requested assistance from HUNT with a search warrant at the suspect's residence. The search resulted in the seizure of a quantity of heroin, cocaine, cash, and a loaded handgun.

HUNT officers then initiated an investigation into the source of the narcotics, which revealed an extensive narcotics trafficking operation reaching Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, and Ogemaw Counties from the Centerline, Michigan area. Ultimately, 16 suspects were identified, all of whom were participating in the narcotics distribution at some level.

Multiple charges were issued against the suspects, with the downstate individual (source) being charged with conspiracy to deliver heroin, conspiracy to deliver cocaine, and conducting a criminal enterprise. An individual considered to be operating the Alcona County "hub" was arrested on the same three charges.

COUPLE TRAFFICKING HEROIN

HUNT conducted controlled purchases of heroin from an individual in the city of Alpena. One of those purchases involved fronting money to the suspect who then made a trip downstate and returned to deliver the heroin on a later day. HUNT detectives then learned that the suspect was again planning to make a trip downstate to procure heroin and return to the Alpena area to sell it. Detectives located the suspect's vehicle and surveilled it as it began travelling southbound. A traffic stop was then conducted with a substantial amount of cash being located within the vehicle.

The suspect ultimately confessed that he and his girlfriend were in route to the Detroit area to obtain heroin. Because he was anticipating going to jail soon, (on unrelated charges), his girlfriend was accompanying him for introduction to his source, so that she could carry on the business in his absence.

Both were charged with conspiracy to deliver heroin and the male subject additionally charged with conducting a criminal enterprise.

AGENCY ASSISTS

As noted earlier, the number of requests for assistance to other law enforcement agencies substantially increased in 2014. In one case HUNT was able to assist the Traverse Narcotics Team (TNT) in a murder for hire investigation. A HUNT detective went undercover, making contact with the suspect while the rest of the team provided surveillance. In another case, HUNT was requested to assist the Alpena Police Department and the Rogers City Police Department in a joint investigation. HUNT was able to provide surveillance and informant handling during a covert operation which led to the securing of charges of accessory after the fact and evidence tampering in a homicide investigation. On 15 occasions during the year, HUNT assisted other agencies in the procurement of search warrants, raid entry, and residence searches.

8

Funding Sources

FISCAL YEAR 2014 FUNDING SOURCES

Alcona County	\$16,494
Alpena City	\$75,972
Sanborn Township	\$375
Michigan State Police	\$599,943
Montmorency County	\$73,967
Byrne Grant	\$88,859
Private Contributions	\$1,050
Restitution/Recovered Funds	\$2,742
Interest	\$208
Adjudicated Forfeitures	\$39,406
Total Operating Costs	\$899,016

* The listed figures reflect the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014.

* A portion of the adjudicated forfeitures expended during the year were proceeds from previous years.

Conclusion 9

I respectfully present the Huron Undercover Narcotics Team's annual report for 2014. Although my assignment to the team began in February of 2015, I can see that the team's accomplishments during 2014 were significant.

The heroin trafficking operations that were discovered during the year consisted of time intensive investigations, often leading to multiple arrests, and charges that include conspiracy or conducting criminal enterprises. Dismantling those operations impacts not only the flow of drugs into the community, but also the associated crimes that so often accompany drug trafficking. Although not reflected in HUNT's stats, several of those cases led to referrals to downstate teams when a source was identified from their area. Some of those resulted in significant drug seizures and arrests by the downstate teams. The methamphetamine manufacturing investigations were similarly time intensive, and they too consisted of multiple arrests and conspiracy charges.

The increase in requests for assistance by other law enforcement agencies is reflective of the value that a team of detectives can have on an investigation, and the determination of this team to reduce and solve crimes that infiltrate the area.

Respectfully,



D/Lt. Mark Pintar

Commander, Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address	486 S. Ripley Blvd. PMB #224 Alpena, MI 49707
Local Phone	(989) 356-3395
Toll Free Phone	(800) 573-DRUG
Fax	(989) 356-4774
Web	www.huntteam.net

Huron Undercocer Narcotics Team

486 S. Ripley Blvd., PMB 224

Alpena, MI 49707

(800) 573-DRUG

2014 Annual Report