



MEDIA RELEASE

OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

Ohio Investigative Unit • Cathy Collins-Taylor, Executive Director
www.oiu.ohio.gov



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Ohio Investigative Unit Arrests 129 Individuals at Country Concert

(COLUMBUS) – Undercover agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) arrested 129 individuals, mostly for underage alcohol violations during the Country Concert at Hickory Hill Lakes in Shelby County over the past weekend.

“I want to thank the partners who contributed to this event to ensure the safety of our roadways, and to those attending the popular summer concert,” said Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán. “The department will continue to work through our divisions to deter underage drinking and to stop impaired driving for the safety of all Ohioans.”

During the four-day event, agents charged individuals with the following:

Charge	Total	Charge	Total
Underage drinking	126	Drug abuse	1
Falsification	3	Possession of drug paraphernalia	1
Furnishing to underage	2	Tobacco	1
Prohibited acts	2	Open container in a motor vehicle	1

“Agents worked alongside Shelby County Sheriff’s Deputies in a successful effort to thwart harmful behavior that could contribute to alcohol consumption,” said OIU Executive Director Cathy Collins-Taylor. “Our mission is to educate the public while keeping them safe and we will continue to work with our partners to ensure that future concerts and gatherings will be as successful.”

The number of individuals arrested was down from last year but in line with previous years. In 2008, a total of 160 were arrested during the weekend festivities. There were 137 arrested in 2007. In 2006, 132 were arrested and 117 individuals were arrested in 2005.

Resulting criminal charges were filed with the Shelby Municipal Prosecutor. Charges were also filed at the Shelby County Juvenile Court for three individuals arrested who are under 18 years of age.

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The Ohio Investigative Unit is a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety and enforces local, state and federal laws with emphasis on liquor, food stamp and tobacco offenses, further offering educational guidance and professional assistance to law enforcement agents and the general public. For more information on the Ohio Investigative Unit, log onto <http://www.investigativeunit.ohio.gov/>.