



MEDIA RELEASE

Investigative Unit

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Agents Cite Pomeroy Bar, Employee with Gambling Violations

(Columbus) – Agents with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Investigative Unit have filed both criminal and administrative charges for illegal gambling against a Meigs County liquor permit establishment and an employee. The charges were filed following a search warrant conducted at Mizway Inc., 39825 SR 143 in Pomeroy, on January 23.

Criminal charges were filed on Ronda K. Stout, 47, of Middleport, as well as Mizway Inc., with gambling and operating a gambling house. Mizway Inc., was also cited administratively on two counts each of acquire, possess, control or operate a gambling device; electronic video gambling device; game of chance for profit or scheme of chance; operating a gambling house; unsanitary conditions, as well as one count of recklessly permitting public gaming.

During the search warrant, agents seized three slot machines, various records and numerous bottles of liquor.

The case will be heard in the Meigs County Court. Once all criminal proceedings are complete, the administrative case will be presented to the Ohio Liquor Control Commission for their consideration. Possible administrative penalties include fine, suspension or revocation of the liquor permit.

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The Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU.