



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

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**Wayne Rausch**

Sheriff

**Brian Strampher**

Chief Deputy

## Media Release

**To: All media/press outlets**

**From: Det. Jennifer L. McFarland**

**CC: Sheriff/Chief Deputy**

**Date: 7/12/2005**

**RE: Over a pound of marijuana confiscated**

On 7/11/2005, at about 22:20, Deputy Scott Luther pulled over a speeding vehicle near the Potlatch "Y." Richard Brian Tomich, a 23 year-old Moscow man, was driving the vehicle and had a suspended license. During the course of the traffic stop and arrest, Deputy Luther had his K9 partner, Sunny, conduct a "sniff" of the car. Sunny hit on the trunk of the car and Deputy Luther removed a backpack from the trunk. Inside the back pack, Dep. Luther found 20.595 ounces of marijuana packaged in "seal-a-meal" type plastic baggies and zip-lock plastic baggies. Upon searching the rest of the vehicle, Dep. Luther found over \$2,700 in cash, stacked and banded. Tomich was arrested for Driving Without Privileges and is also being charged with trafficking marijuana.

This is the K9 division's third major drug "hit" in the past week that has resulted in a felony level distributing and/or possession arrest: On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunny had located over 17 grams of methamphetamine during a contact in Troy, Idaho, resulting in the arrest of Matthew Babb for possession with intent to deliver; and on July 8<sup>th</sup>, Kilo (along with his handler Deputy Ryan Sillers) assisted ISP during a contact that resulted in the arrest of Douglas W. Jacobs, a 51 year-old Moscow man, for possession of marijuana, cocaine, and methamphetamine with intent to deliver.

According to the Latah County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement, it is the Office's mission to "Provide a visible presence in our communities, take decisive action against the production, sale, and usage of illegal drugs, and hold violators of the law accountable." Since Sheriff Rausch introduced drug-sniffing dogs to the patrol division, they have been operative in seizing pounds of illegal drugs and in taking drug dealers off the streets of Latah County. The patrol division has self-initiated saturation patrols and has made a dedicated effort to detect and apprehend drug dealers. The Sheriff's Office is sending a clear message to drug dealers and users in Latah County: You are not wanted or welcome in our community.



**Marijuana Seized from Tomich**



**Richard B. Tomich**  
**DOB: 10/26/1981**