

## Operation Safe Zone/Safe Streets

On October 4, 2016, Biddeford P.D. launched a new initiative named Operation Safe Zone. As its first pre-planned and coordinated initiative, units from the B.P.D. Street Crimes Unit, Criminal Investigation Division, Patrol Division, M.D.E.A., U.S. Marshals, Maine Probation, State Police (K9) and Biddeford Codes Enforcement went to 159 Elm Street to address concerns of ongoing reports of drug trafficking. The intent of the operation was to develop and deter ongoing criminal activity in general and drug trafficking specifically. Officers conducted bail condition checks, probation checks, warrant checks and sex offender registry checks. Officers also intended to search for persons and execute active arrest warrants. This initiative will be exercised at other locations throughout the City of Biddeford in its ongoing efforts towards addressing quality of life in Biddeford.

The success of this operation should not simply be judged by the arrests made or the violations cited. Numerous residents of the building and surrounding area supplied useful intelligence information and expressed their gratitude as officers went door to door in the building initiating contact with everyone present/available, and addressing quality of life issues.

During this operation, M.D.E.A. was able to develop probable cause to seek and obtain a search warrant of apartment 105. During the execution of the search warrant, substances suspected to be heroin and cocaine base (Crack) were found in a manner that would suggest packaging for distribution.

The tenant of that apartment Gregory Hoar, 32, of Biddeford was arrested and charged with Aggravated Trafficking in Schedule W Drugs (Heroin, Cocaine Base). Bail was set on the charge at \$25,000. Hoar was transported to York County Jail pending further court appearance.



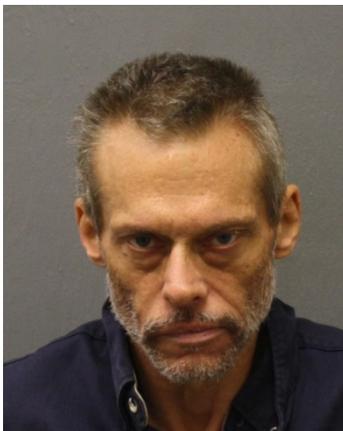
Charles Coyle, 28, of Biddeford was arrested on an arrest warrant charging probation revocation from a previous assault conviction. Coyle was placed on a probation hold (no bail allowed) and he was transported to York County Jail pending further court appearance.



Tonya York, 45, of Biddeford was arrested and charged with hindering apprehension and violation of conditional release. Bail was set on those charges at \$500. York was transported to York County Jail pending further court appearance.



Richard Putze, 56, of Biddeford was arrested and charged with hindering apprehension and violation of conditional release. Bail was set on those charges at \$500. York was transported to York County Jail pending further court appearance.



Ronald Pevear, 44, of Biddeford was arrested on an arrest warrant charging failure to appear on a previous assault and disorderly conduct. Bail was set on that warrant at \$100. Pevear was transported to York County Jail pending further court appearance.

Code enforcement officers also addressed observed code violations in the building both with the property owner/manager and with individual tenants.