

Man jailed on gun, drug charges in Jackson County

Police: Marijuana, cocaine, pills, Uzi-style gun found in U-Haul

STAFF REPORTS

A Texas man driving along the interstate in Jackson County was arrested after police found drugs and weapons in his U-Haul truck, police said in a news release.



WARREN C. STEVENSON

Indiana State Police Trooper Randel Miller was patrolling Interstate 65 near the 48-mile marker Friday when he became suspicious of possible criminal activity, according to the Indiana State Police.

Miller stopped the vehicle driven by Warren C. Stevenson, 60, of San Antonio, and developed enough probable cause to search the vehicle, police said.

The trooper found marijuana, cocaine, pills, paraphernalia, scales, a handgun, a pump-

action shotgun and the Uzi-style gun and 30-round magazine.

Stevenson was arrested on charges of:

- Possession of cocaine with a firearm, a Class C felony
- Possession of cocaine, a Class D felony
- Possession of a controlled substance, a Class D felony
- Possession of paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor
- Possession of marijuana, a Class A misdemeanor

Stevenson is behind bars in the Jackson County Jail without bond until he makes an initial court appearance with a judge.

The Jackson County prosecutor will determine what charges, if any, to file.

Miller was assisted at the scene by Senior Trooper Stephen Wheelles, Detective Rick Roseberry and Jackson County Sheriff's Department deputies.

4-H Fair schedule for today, Monday

Today's events

- 9 a.m.-noon:** Swine weigh-in — purebred gilts must be declared at weigh-in
- 9 a.m.:** 4-H Horse & Pony Western Halter & Performance Show
- 1 p.m.:** Little Miss & Mister Contest interview — Southside Elementary School
- 1 p.m.:** Jack & Jill Pageant — Southside Elementary School
- 1 p.m.:** Columbus FFA Antique Tractor Pull — Grandstand
- 1:30 p.m.:** Li'l Wrangler Rabbit Show — Pavilion
- 2 p.m.:** 4-H Rabbit Show — Pavilion
- 2-10 p.m.:** 4-H Community, Family Arts and Commercial buildings open
- 5 p.m.:** Vesper services — East

Columbus United Methodist Church will lead the service, David Boll Theatre — next to Community Building

5 p.m.: Midway opens — \$20 wristbands

5-10 p.m.: Li'l Hands on the Farm open

6 p.m.: Newbury Road — folk/bluegrass — David Boll Theatre

7 p.m.: Little Miss & Mister Public Contest — Southside Elementary School

6:30 p.m.: Bartholomew County Farm Stock Tractor Pull — Grandstand

7-8 p.m.: Possum Glory Train Band — Farm Bureau Building

Monday's events

7 a.m.-noon: 4-H Sheep &

Beef/Starter Calf check-in — Beef/Starter calves will be weighed as they come off the truck. Sheep must be stalled by noon. Check-ins subject to change pending weather conditions.

9-11 a.m.: Open Class Flowers entries due — Family Arts Building

9-11 a.m.: 4-H Flowers, Crops and Gardening check-in. Record sheets due at check-in.

1 p.m.: Li'l Wrangler Swine Show, 4-H Gilt Show, Open Carcass will follow.

5-10 p.m.: Li'l Hands on the Farm open

5 p.m.: Midway opens — Dollar Day: \$1 per ride

5-10 p.m.: 4-H Community, Family Arts and Commercial buildings open

5:30-6:30 p.m.: Watermelon Seed-Spitting Contest — Farm Bureau Building (registration at 5 p.m.)

6:30 p.m.: 4-H Horse & Pony Contesting Show — includes pole bending, barrels, flags and keyhole

7-8 p.m.: Columbus Clogging Company — Farm Bureau Building

7 p.m.: Columbus City Band — David Boll Theatre

7 p.m.: Mud Bog — sponsored by Rhino Linings of Columbus — Grandstand



FUTURE

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Ryan Stout, the company's chief executive officer, agreed to meet the council's demands. He said Thursday that his company now has 10 full-time employees and seven part-time employees.

Last weekend, the company made a property-tax payment of \$14,186 via the dropbox at the Bartholomew County treasurer's office, catching up on its 2012 taxes, interest and penalties. But the company still owes \$7,849 in property taxes that were due May 10.

Stout said he assured the staff at the county treasurer's office that he would pay the rest of the taxes in the next few months.

Council members who helped orchestrate the new track with the company said that Nusun had not cleared the first hurdle — paying all of its past due property taxes. The company executive also has yet to meet with the incentive review committee, nor has he responded to emails outlining the steps the company needs to take, council members said.

"At this point, we are waiting for Mr. Stout to contact one of the incentive review committee (members), which has not happened yet," said Frank Miller, a City Council member and member of the incentive review committee.

"At that point, we will question him further as to what his thinking was about what part of the taxes he has paid," Miller added.

Stout said he believes he is scheduled to meet with the incentive review committee next week, but Miller and Ryan Brand, the council president and member of the committee, said there is no meeting scheduled and they have not had any contact with Stout.

Council member Jim Lienhoop, also a member of the incentive review committee, said the council would like to work with Stout, "but if we can't, then I think we all understand what the remedies are."

"Businesses have issues

from time to time, and it is not unusual for them to pay their bills late or to pay their taxes late," Lienhoop said. "It doesn't appear to us that he is trying to get by without paying what he owes. But we would just like to have a chance to sit down and talk with him and understand a little bit better about the cash flow issues he has faced."

City Council member Tim Shuffett said that council members were "obviously disappointed" that Stout had not paid the entire past due amount but wanted to talk to him before reaching a decision. Shuffett said that Stout would have to come back before the council at its second August meeting to address the situation.

Miller said he had written Stout an e-mail on behalf of the incentive review committee, outlining the terms of the agreement. He said he wanted to begin meeting with Stout well in advance of the August council meeting to resolve

whatever problems need to be settled. Shuffett said several meetings with the incentive review committee may be necessary.

"We can't just meet the day before the August meeting," Miller said.

Stout said he has been discouraged by what he considers the mayor acting against his company but he is confident in the company's future. Stout is optimistic about working with council members, he said.

However, he is having serious concerns about whether he can continue his business in Columbus.

"We could walk away and give the city back the building, if that is what the mayor wants," Stout said.

Nusun received nearly \$900,000 in state, regional and local incentives when it located on Industrial Drive near Walesboro, including the \$325,000 from Columbus, the Columbus Redevelopment Commission and Bartholomew County.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

THE GOLDEN K. KIWANIS CLUB will meet at 10 a.m. Monday in multipurpose room No. 1 at Mill Race Center, 900 Lindsey St.,

Columbus. Dr. Dick Pitman will provide a PowerPoint program of diving photos. Visitors are welcome.

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