St. Petersburg Police Department  
News Release

For Immediate Release  
Feb 7, 2013

Search Warrants Produce One Arrest, 30 Firearms, Ammunition, Drugs and Cash

Arrested:

Jason Deon Thomas, 31, home address is 2200 37th Street North. Thomas is the owner of JT's The Perfect Tattoo Shop located at 3001 34th Street North.

Thomas is a convicted felon. In 2001, he was charged with Armed Trafficking MDMA, Trafficking in Phenethylamines, Felony Possession of Marijuana and Possession of LSD. In 2012, he was charged with Possession of Marijuana over 20 grams.

Thomas was arrested this morning and transported to a federal booking facility in Tampa, Florida. Thomas has been charged federally and made his initial appearance in federal court this afternoon, in Tampa, before U.S. Magistrate Elizabeth Jenkins.

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The St. Petersburg Police Department’s Vice and Narcotics Unit and The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), conducted a joint investigation after receiving a tip about Jason Deon Thomas selling drugs.

During their investigation, detectives learned that Thomas sold drugs out of his home and possessed a large quantity of firearms.

On Thursday February 7, 2013 at about 10:45 a.m., the St. Petersburg Police Department’s SWAT Team conducted the search warrant at Thomas's home while other investigators served the search warrant at Thomas’ business.

Thomas was arrested at his home without incident.

The search warrant at Thomas’ business only produced some boxes of ammunition.

The search warrant at Thomas’ home produced 30 firearms, including one fully automatic rifle, two sawed-off shotguns, numerous assault weapons, semi-automatic rifles and various handguns.

Investigators also took possession of one suppressor, numerous C- magazines (each one holds one-hundred rounds of ammunition), several bullet resistant vests, one Kevlar body suit, including knee pads and bullet-resistant arm bands.
They also recovered bullet-resistant helmets and gas masks, numerous survival knives, bug out bags, survival books, and several large boxes of ammunition.

Investigators recovered 9.5 grams of powder cocaine, 216 grams of marijuana and $7,390.00 in cash from inside of the home.

Chief of Police Charles “Chuck” Harmon said, “This is a significant arrest that began with a tip from a concerned citizen. This case clearly reinforces the notion that law enforcement needs the public’s support to get drug dealers and illegal firearms off the street.”

Investigators are still inventorying all of the seized items at this time.

Please contact the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Tampa, Florida for any additional information about this case.

Information by Bill Proffitt on Thursday February 7, 2013 5:30 p.m.

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