

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release



For Immediate Release: March 9, 2011
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Patrol seizes crack cocaine and arrests two dealers following Hancock County traffic stop

FINDLAY – Two Ohioans are facing felony drug charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized 3.5 grams of crack cocaine valued at \$350 following a traffic stop yesterday in Hancock County.

Troopers stopped a 2002 Mazda for a vehicle registration violation, just off Interstate 75, near Findlay, at approximately 1:26 a.m. Tuesday. The driver was arrested for not having a valid driver license and a subsequent body search revealed \$1,587 in small bills and a hotel room key. The driver admitted that he did not know who owned the vehicle and that he and another woman were selling crack cocaine out of a hotel room. A consent search of the hotel room, conducted with the assistance of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office, revealed several small baggies of crack cocaine, a scale with residue and razor blades.

The driver, Gerald B. Middlebrooks, 41, of Toledo and the woman in the hotel room, Deanna Rae Huether, 24, of Findlay, were charged with drug abuse, a fifth-degree felony. Middlebrooks was also charged with aggravated trafficking, a fourth-degree felony.

Both suspects were incarcerated in the Hancock County Jail. If convicted, Huether could face up to a year in prison and up to a \$2,500 fine and Middlebrooks could face up to 2-and-a-half-years in prison and up to a \$7,500 fine.

A photo of the seized crack cocaine is available for download on the Patrol's Web site at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov.

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