



**LARRY G. ZWIEG**  
DIRECTOR

**METROPOLITAN BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

Telephone: (407) 836-9701

Facsimile: (407) 836-9743

Email: [MBIOrlando@ocfl.net](mailto:MBIOrlando@ocfl.net)

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**Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation (MBI)**  
**United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)**  
**Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSWP)**

## **Operation Ruff Rider**

**Central Florida Drug Trafficking Organization Members  
Arrested for Trafficking in Cocaine Over 400 Grams,  
Conspiracy to Traffic Cocaine Over 400 Grams,  
9 Defendants**

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The Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation is a multi-agency Narcotics, Vice and Organized Crime Law Enforcement Task Force assigned to Orange and Osceola Counties. The member agencies of MBI are the State Attorney of the Ninth Judicial Circuit; Sheriff of Orange County; Orlando Police Department; Winter Park Police Department; Apopka Police Department; Ocoee Police Department; University of Central Florida Police Department; Sheriff of Osceola County; Florida Department of Law Enforcement; Winter Garden Police Department; Florida Highway Patrol; United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; United States Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Postal Inspection Service, and the United States Secret Service.

Orlando, Florida, This morning, July 15, 2015, **The Orlando Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation (MBI), The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSWP)**, with the assistance of the **Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Orlando Police Department (OPD), and Osceola County Sheriff's Office (OCSO)**, announced that charges have been filed, and arrest warrants have been issued, naming **9 defendants** accused of being part of a Central Florida **cocaine trafficking organization**. Charges include: **Trafficking in Cocaine, over 400 Grams, and Conspiracy to Traffic in Cocaine, over 400 Grams**.

At the center of the investigation were **Dave Romero (AKA Chino), H/M, DOB 10-29-1978**, and **Curtis Ruff, B/M, DOB 01-30-1976**, the leaders of the organization. **Dave Romero** has an extensive criminal history, which includes **12 felony arrests and 3 misdemeanor arrests** for crimes including possession of cocaine and trafficking in cannabis, aggravated stalking, and credit card fraud (among other charges). **Curtis Ruff** also has an extensive criminal history, which includes **22 felony arrests and 3 misdemeanor arrests** for crimes including trafficking in cocaine, robbery, firearms violations, home invasion, and resisting law enforcement officers with violence (among other charges). Other high ranking members of the Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO), who were charged, include **Jair Javier Olivo Ramirez, Angel L. Valdes JR, Wilson Martinez Rodriguez, Antonio Davis, and Darrell Williams**. Most of the 9 persons charged today, have extensive drug related criminal histories.

In August 2014, the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation (MBI) and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) coordinated and began to investigate this cocaine trafficking organization. The investigation resulted in evidence that the organization was distributing multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine to several individual drug dealers in the Central Florida area. Over seven (7) kilograms of cocaine have been seized during the investigation. Search warrants were served last night and early this morning on multiple residences and at several storage facilities which were believed to be used to store and to distribute cocaine.

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Search Warrants were executed at the following locations:

1. 2505 Bross Drive, Saint Cloud, Florida (Home of Dave Romero)
2. 3146 Riachuelo Lane, Kissimmee, Florida (Home of Jair Ramirez)
3. 2471 Orsota Circle, Ocoee, Florida (Home of Curtis Ruff)
4. 1724 West Washington Street, Orlando, FL (Business of Curtis Ruff)

Eight (8) of the nine (9) defendants have been arrested at this time. Agents are currently in the process of locating and arresting **Curtis Ruff**, who is currently at large and knows law enforcement, is looking for him. He is considered a violent armed cocaine trafficker.

More arrests and seizures are anticipated as the investigation continues to progress. MBI and DEA request that anyone with additional information related to this Drug Trafficking Organization, or the location of **Curtis Ruff**, please contact MBI at (407) 836-9701, or Crimeline at (407) 423-TIPS.

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**DAVE ROMERO**



**CURTIS RUFF**

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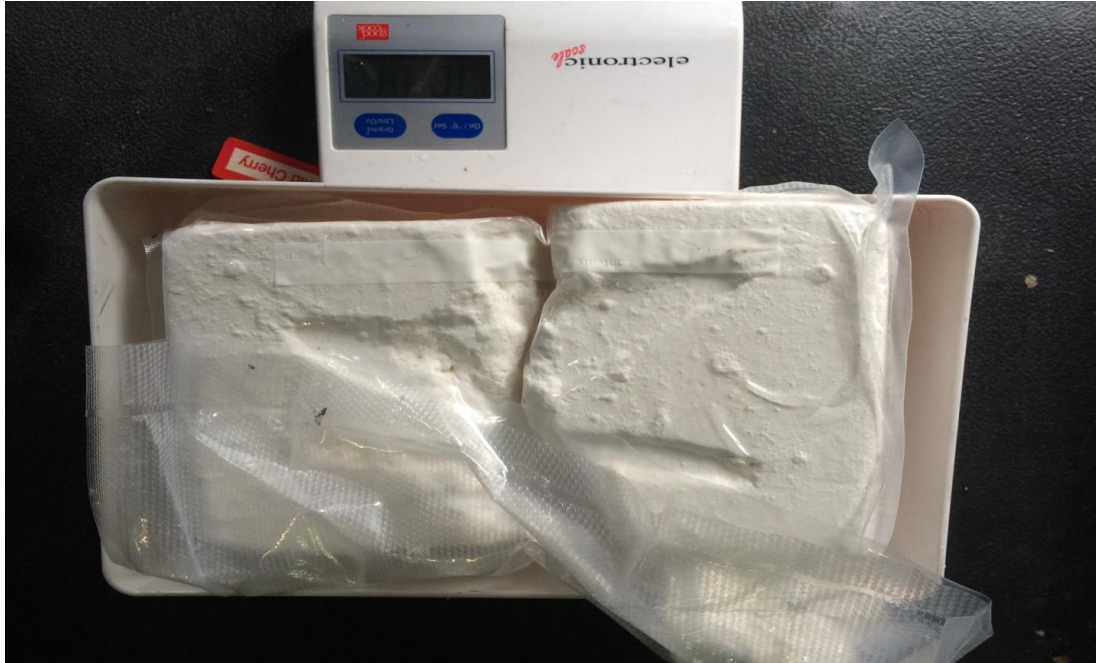


**Six kilograms of cocaine seized in a hidden compartment in a vehicle**



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**1 kilogram of cocaine seized from a hidden compartment in a vehicle**



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