

Alaska Dispatch News

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Six people from the Kenai Peninsula were arrested Thursday for their roles in selling methamphetamine and heroin, Alaska State Troopers say.

Four of the suspects were arrested at about 9:30 a.m. Thursday, after officers executed a search warrant at a residence off Tustumena Lake Road in Kasilof and another at a residence on Friendship Avenue in Kasilof, troopers wrote in an online dispatch Friday morning.

Joshua Tri, 30, of Kasilof was arrested for two counts of third-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance. John Fisler, 51, of Kasilof was charged with four counts of third-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance. Stacy Whiteley, 40, of Soldotna was charged with one count of fourth-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance. Ashley Armknecht, 23, of Soldotna was charged with probation violations.

Officers from the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, the Kenai Police Department, the Soldotna Police Department, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Department of Homeland Security jointly served the warrants, according to the troopers dispatch.

At about 5 p.m. Thursday, two additional people, Levi Shannon and Isis Holcombe, both 18, were also arrested as they attempted to deliver drugs, troopers said.

Holcombe was charged with two counts of second-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance and two counts of third-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance, troopers wrote, while Shannon was charged with three counts of third-degree misconduct involving a controlled substance.

Lt. Rex Leath, an Alaska state trooper who is also deputy commander of the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit, said the two-month investigation was sparked by community tips. Troopers purchased 18.3 grams of methamphetamine, which Leath said sells for \$100 for every 0.3 gram.

According to Leath, investigators don't believe the drugs were being made in Alaska, but shipped in from the Lower 48 and other countries.

All six people arrested were taken to Wildwood Pretrial Facility and held without bail, troopers said.

Leath added that more charges may be filed.

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