

## LAW &amp; JUSTICE

## Homes Converted for Marijuana Grows

## Arrests break up 'for-profit' network

The Portland Police Bureau's Drugs and Vice Division concluded an investigation into a major drug trafficking organization last week by serving search warrants on 12 residences and a business.

The investigation focused on a large scale marijuana manufacturing and distribution network. Marijuana was being cultivated in several houses specifically renovated to accommodate large-scale marijuana grows and many were not occupied by any residents.

Police said the drug traffickers were highly organized and the operation was highly profitable with no connection to medical marijuana.

Officers learned that in some of the grow houses electricity was being diverted directly from the power poles into the houses to run the network of transformers, lights and filtration systems. The power diversions presented a danger to the neighborhood as a substantial fire hazard.

Each year the Police Bureau receives a number of complaints about marijuana grow houses and associated odor, foot and vehicle traffic and violence. The violence is of particular concern as thieves are committing home-invasion



A Portland police photo shows a marijuana manufacture operation that was one of several grow houses specifically renovated for large-scale marijuana grows, many of which were not occupied by any residents.

robberies to steal marijuana and cash from growers, police said.

Evidence seized in this case included over \$74,000 in cash; over

2,400 marijuana plants with an estimated street value of nearly \$2.5 million; nearly 200 pounds of finished marijuana bud with an esti-

ated value of nearly \$600,000; and marijuana growing equipment valuing more than \$200,000.

The six persons arrested in the

case are Kung Mo Chin, 29; Jin Yu Chen, 35; Wen Han Chen, 39; Shao Quan Ou, 40; Zhong Dong Ou, 42; and Herman Man Shun Chan, 50.

## TriMet Sued for Fatal Crash

TriMet has been sued for \$30 million by parents of two women killed by a bus and by a young

man injured in the same collision. Danielle Sale's father David Sale and Jenee Hammel's mother Vicki

Flynn filed separate lawsuits against TriMet last week in Multnomah County Circuit Court.

Danielle Sale's boyfriend, 22-year-old Robert Gittings, also filed suit, on Tuesday.

Danielle Sale and Gittings had been holding hands as they crossed a downtown street in a

marked crosswalk late on April 24. TriMet bus driver Sandi Day made what police say was an illegal left-hand turn and struck five pedestrians.

Day has since been fired.

## Scam Warning for Ducks Fans

Authorities are warning Oregon Ducks fans to be especially careful when buying tickets to the national championship game because of scams.

Ticket prices are already climbing toward \$2,000 online and the tickets haven't even been distributed yet.

Craigslist has a warning posted about a man from London who claims to be selling tickets to the game.

"A big red flag is when it turns out the person you're dealing with

is overseas. That's almost always going to be a scammer," explained Tony Green, with the Oregon Attorney General's office.

Other important tips – never agree to wire money to the seller. Try to always pay with a credit card because most credit card companies will pay a person back if they're the victim of a scam. Also, authorities warn that people buying anything online should never give out their personal information because they could get ripped off.

**PORTLAND CLIMATE ACTION NOW!**

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
TAKE ACTION TODAY!**

Find inspiration and resources at:  
[www.portlandclimateaction.org](http://www.portlandclimateaction.org)



City of Portland Bureau of  
Planning and Sustainability  
Sam Adams, Mayor | Susan Anderson, Director