

On The Record

Cottage Grove man sentenced to federal prison for hash oil explosion

PORTLAND — Eric L. Scully, of Cottage Grove, was sentenced June 20 to 78 months in federal prison and five years' supervised release for endangering human life and illegally possessing and manufacturing marijuana during a November 2017 butane honey oil (BHO) explosion in Cottage Grove.

Scully was also sentenced to six months in prison for violating the supervised release conditions of a previous federal money laundering conviction. The two prison sentences will run consecutively, for a total of

84 months in prison. According to court documents, on Nov. 16, 2017, the Cottage Grove police and fire departments responded to an explosion at a storage facility in Cottage Grove. Officers found Scully at a local hospital where he was being treated for serious burn injuries. Investigators later learned that, at the time of the explosion, at least three other individuals were inside the facility.

Two days later, Cottage Grove Police and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents executed a search warrant at the

storage facility. Inside, they found a large, sophisticated and unlicensed BHO extraction lab. BHO is a concentrated form of marijuana extracted using highly flammable or combustible solvents. During the search, agents found 1,200 pounds of processed marijuana, 728 marijuana plants and over 80 pounds of marijuana extract.

The investigation determined that while manufacturing BHO, one of Scully's machines, located in a room containing highly combustible materials and equipment, caught fire. The

machine and combustibles exploded, injuring Scully and placing the other individuals present at substantial risk of harm.

At the time of the explosion, Scully was on federal supervision stemming from a money laundering conviction from 2016. In that case, Scully owned and operated a large, illegal marijuana grow in Eugene from 2012 through 2014. That investigation found that Scully collected over \$1,000,000 in proceeds from his illegal business, which fed a luxury lifestyle of high-end cars, watches, jewelry,

clothing, real estate and firearms. At the time of the search Scully's properties in 2015, investigators uncovered over 230 pounds of marijuana, 219 marijuana plants, \$179,860 in cash and numerous high-value items and vehicles.

Scully pleaded guilty to money laundering and served a 90-day prison sentence at the beginning of 2017. While in prison, Scully continued to actively develop his illegal BHO business in Cottage Grove and expanded the operation while on federal supervision up to the date of the

explosion.

During sentencing, Scully was ordered to forfeit the personal property used to facilitate his crimes, which includes a truck, trailer and more than \$25,000 in cash.

On Nov. 15, 2018, Scully pleaded guilty to one count each of endangering human life and illegally possessing and manufacturing marijuana.

This case was investigated by DEA and the Cottage Grove Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Gavin W. Bruce, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon.

Oregonians encouraged to keep fireworks legal, safe this July Fourth

The Office of State Fire Marshal, the Oregon Fire Service, natural resource agencies, Oregon licensed fireworks wholesalers and safety experts all encourage Oregonians to "keep it legal and keep it safe" when using fireworks.

The 2019 Oregon fireworks retail sales season opens June 23 and runs through July 6. The OSFM and their partners want everyone to know which fireworks are legal to use in Oregon without a permit, where they are permitted to be used and the important safety steps to take when using legal fireworks.

"I want to remind all Oregonians that consumer legal fireworks can only be purchased from Oregon permitted fireworks retailers and stands," says State

Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "And, regulations limit where those fireworks may be used. Fire risk in Oregon is already high and, as the weeks pass, that risk will only increase, so there is no room for error in fireworks safety."

The July Fourth holiday public land visitors are advised to leave all fireworks at home. The use of fireworks is prohibited on all national forestland, Oregon state parks and beaches. Residents statewide can still enjoy fireworks at officially sponsored community events.

For residents who purchase legal fireworks, the OSFM encourages everyone to practice the four Bs of safe fireworks use:

- Be prepared before lighting fireworks: keep wa-

ter available by using a garden hose or bucket.

- Be safe when lighting fireworks: keep children and pets away from fireworks.

- Be responsible after lighting fireworks: never relight a dud. Wait 15 to 20 minutes then soak it in a bucket of water before disposal.

- Be aware: use only legal fireworks and use them only in legal places

Oregon law prohibits the possession, use, or sale of any firework that flies into the air, explodes, or travels more than 12 feet horizontally on the ground, without a permit issued by the OSFM.

Fireworks commonly called bottle rockets, Roman candles and firecrackers are illegal in Oregon,

without a permit.

For the last reported five years through 2018, there were 1,264 reported fireworks-related fires in Oregon recorded by the state's structural fire agencies, resulting in more than \$3.5 million in property damage.

During that same period, fires resulting from fireworks resulted in one death and 26 injuries. The data from structural fire agencies do not include incidents that occurred on federal and other state lands.

Officials may seize illegal fireworks and charge offenders with a class B misdemeanor, which could result in a fine of up to \$2,500 per violation and a civil penalty of up to \$500.

Those who misuse fireworks or allow fireworks to cause damage are liable and

may be required to pay fire suppression costs or other damage. Parents are also liable for fireworks damage caused by their children.

"All Oregonians share the responsibility to use only consumer legal fireworks and use them carefully," adds Walker. "We encourage you to be aware and considerate of neighbors and their pets before deciding on when and where you

choose to light legal fireworks."

The OSFM has published FAQs for commonly answered questions about the sale and legal use of consumer fireworks, permits for the retail sale of fireworks, and state rules for their use and enforcement activities. OSFM's fireworks education materials for sharing on social media also can be found on its website.

POLICE LOG

June 15

- A subject was arrested by Lane County Jail for an outstanding warrant issued by the Municipal Court of Cottage Grove regarding a failure to appear for a DUII.

June 16

- Criminal mischief and criminal trespass were reported on 21st Street when unknown persons wrote and the front and rear window of a vehicle in a private

driveway.

June 17

- A subject was arrested on 14th Street for warrants and possession of methamphetamine.

June 19

- A transient male was reported asking for cigarettes and being rude to customers in front of Walmart. The responding officer provided a requested courtesy transport to Rice Hill and the subject was given a

small amount of cash for a meal.

June 20

- A DUII arrest was made on N. 16th Street when a subject failed to maintain his lane of travel and was operating illegal spot lights.

DEATH NOTICE

DOLLARHIDE—John Markwood Dollarhide II, 71, of Cottage Grove, died Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

Arrangements made by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove.

Clifford Leo Willis 1939 - 2019



Clifford Leo Willis of Junction City, OR, passed away June 15, 2019 by a Brain Injury from a fall.

Clifford was born July 24, 1939 to Anton and Sadie Willis (Allen) in Cottage Grove, OR.

He graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 1957. Clifford married Madeline on June 20, 1981.

He spent 3 years in the Army and 4 years in the Reserves.

He worked in the Wood Products Industry for many

years and then became a Security Guard.

He later retired and had much enjoyment visiting his friends at McDonalds and he was also a devout member of the First Christian Church in Junction City.

Clifford loved sudoku, cowboy shows, square dancing and the Oregon Ducks.

Clifford is survived by his wife Madeline Willis; step-daughter Laurie of Junction City, OR; brother Harvey Willis of Cottage Grove, OR and sister Mabel Budd of Eugene, OR; 1 grandchild and 3 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Elmer Willis and Clarence Willis; his sisters Viola Adams Willis and Frances Gilbert.

A Public Viewing was held on June 24, 2019. Arrangements entrusted to Murphy-Musgrove Funeral Home.

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