

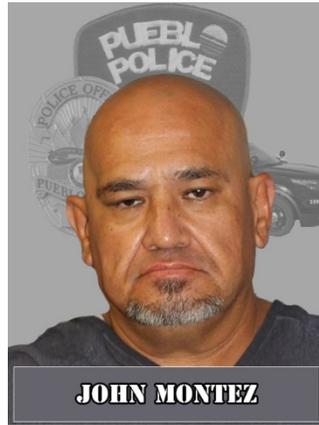


PRESS RELEASE

City of Pueblo Police Department
**Combined Results of Crime
Prevention Operation**



September 7, 2021 [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]



During the eleven days of the 2021 Colorado State Fair, from August 27th through September 5th, members of the Pueblo Police Department's Patrol Division and Special Investigation Division, along with agents from the FBI Denver Division Southern Colorado Violent Gang Safe Streets Task Force, conducted a proactive operation aimed at preventing crime in the area of the Colorado State Fairgrounds.

The operation consisted of law enforcement personnel saturating the area, conducting numerous traffic stops and field contacts. Law enforcement personnel employed a multifaceted approach to the operation, conducting both high-visibility operations (e.g., marked patrol cars conducting traffic stops and bicycle patrol officers making citizen contacts) and low-visibility operations (e.g., surveillance and intelligence-gathering).

The following are a sample of the results from the first weekend of the operation:

- Four individuals (two adult males, one adult female and juvenile male) were arrested on firearm-related charges. The three males are known gang members. One of the males was out on bond at the time of his new arrest. The female, a convicted felon who had two additional warrants for her arrest, was in possession of Methamphetamine.
- One adult male was taken into custody after Methamphetamine was discovered in his possession during a traffic stop.
- Four handguns were recovered, one of which was stolen.
- Over 28 grams of Methamphetamine was seized.
- One stolen vehicle was recovered.

The following are a sample of the results from the second weekend of the operation:

- Four warrant arrests were made, including the following:
 - Manuel Garcia – Three felony arrest warrants (Possession of Controlled Substances X2 and Vehicular Eluding) and two misdemeanor arrest warrants.
 - John Montez – Two felony arrest warrants (Menacing and Dangerous Drugs) and two misdemeanor arrest warrants.
 - James Kelly – One felony arrest warrant (Parole Violation – Motor Vehicle Theft). Arrested on new charges of Violation of Restraining Order and Possession of Controlled Substance.
- More than 30 traffic stops were made, partially resulting in two DUIs.
- Law enforcement personnel made several community and gang member contacts.
- In separate contacts, .6 grams of Methamphetamine and .6 grams of Heroin were seized.
- One stolen handgun was recovered from a vehicle during the subsequent execution of a search warrant.

Overall, the gang activity was minimal and there were very few issues observed outside of the fairgrounds. Additionally, no major incidents occurred in the vicinity of the fairgrounds during the 2021 fair.

The information contained in this press release is based on preliminary information available at the time of its drafting. The Pueblo Police Department's understanding of this incident may change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed and reviewed. The purpose of this press release is to provide timely information to the public. In consideration of the foregoing, please be advised that any statements expressed herein are subject to change at any time.

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