

## If you yell for help you just might get it! Two charged after sex romp

Kimberly Shoemaker, 40, Bertha Way Georgia, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para, Unlawful Carry or Possession of a Weapon, Criminal Impersonation, and Fugitive from Justice.

Jacob Ward, 41, Jenkins Road Chattanooga, was charged with Domestic Assault, Poss. of Drug Para.,

(see sex romp pg. 2)

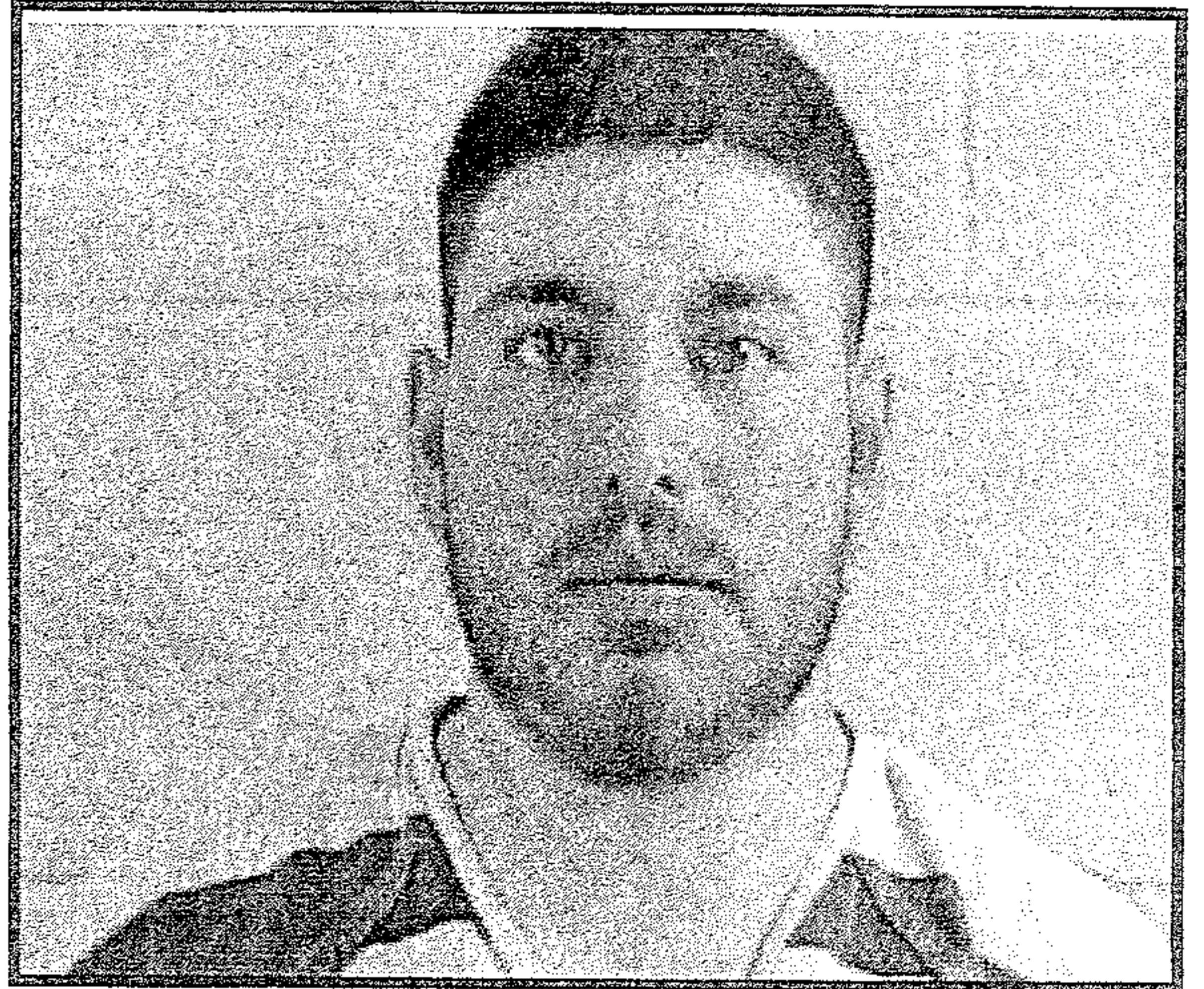


Kimberly Shoemaker



Jacob Ward

## Slow Speed Driver Charged with DUI



Jose Vasquez

see Slow pg. 3

## Knife used in felony assault

## Syringes and more found in traffic stop



See Knife P.5

Taylor Wilson



Lori Eakins

see syringes p.5

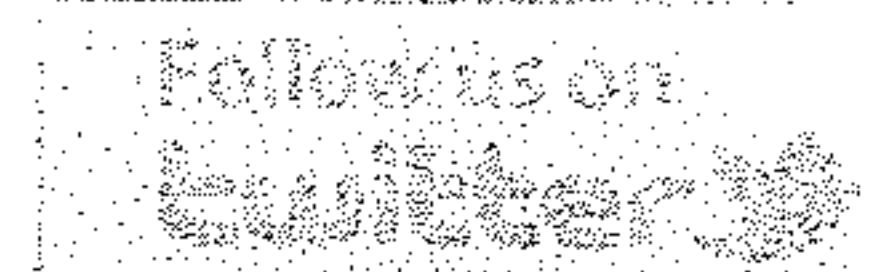
TWO TOP LEADERS IN ITALY AND FIVE US RESIDENTS INDICTED FOR RACKETEERING, HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND DRUG TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACIES TO DISTRIBUTE OPIOIDS RESULTING IN DEATHS INVOLVING "PILL MILLS" OPERATING IN TENNESSEE AND FLORIDA

Investigation is Part of the Attorney General's Opioid Fraud and Abuse Task Force Initiative Justice Department Shuts Down Pill Mills Associated with Hundreds of Deaths of Addicts

On Jan. 4, a federal grand jury in Knoxville, Tennessee, returned a 14-count superseding indictment unsealed today charging seven individuals for their roles in a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) conspiracy and drug trafficking conspiracy to distribute and dispense oxycodone, oxymorphone and morphine outside the scope of professional practice and not for a legitimate

dictment unsealed today charging seven individuals for their roles in a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) conspiracy and drug trafficking conspiracy to distribute and dispense oxycodone, oxymorphone and morphine outside the scope of professional practice and not for a legitimate

(see Indicted pg. 4)



### Verse of the Day

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. — Ephesians 4:2

### Obituaries

see inside

### Wazzup

Great things are coming in 2018! This will be the year the world and we all will see wheather or not our President has made good or bad changes so far.

### Weather

Today: Clear. High of 52F.  
Tonight: Clear. low of 37F.  
Thursday: Overcast and gloomy. High of 52F.  
Thursday night: Rain. Low of 24F.

### Horoscopes

Aquarius 1/20-2/19  
Your metaphysical seismograph begins to register clusters of small quakes in your vicinity just when you thought your life was going to quiet down. Although

(Continued on page 6)



**Sex romp**

Unlawful Carry or Possession of a Weapon, and Fugitive From Justice.

Officer Green, LCPD, responded to The Kings Inn motel in reference to a possible Domestic. The complainant notified dispatch she heard a female screaming, "Dont hurt me, dont kill me

please." Upon arrival Officer made contact with Jacob Ward, which appeared to be out of breath. Officer asked Mr. Ward what had occurred at this residence. Mr. Ward stated him and his girlfriend, Kimberly Shoemaker, were involved in sexual intercourse. Officer attempted to locate the other party which was found in

the bathroom taking a shower. While attempting to locate this female, Officer observed a firearm, which was loaded, 3 magazines, and a holster on the bed.

Officer also observed several syringes lying on the bed and along the floor. After

speaking with both parties Officer requested identification from Miss Shoemaker which stated she had never been issued a drivers license and could not remember her social security number. After requesting a name and date

see sex romp ctd. pg. 4



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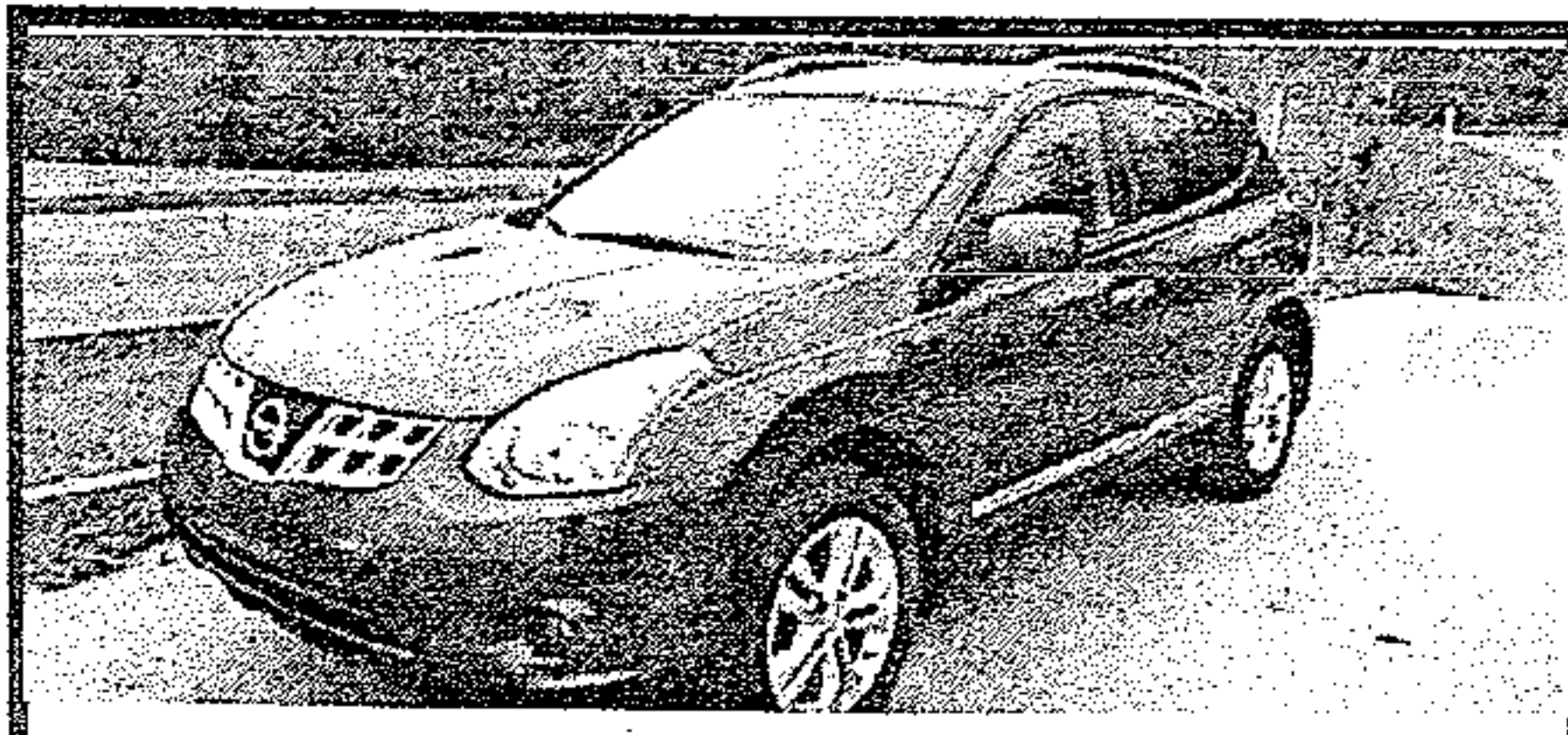
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Slow

Jose Vasquez, 23, Avery Street Lenoir City, was charged with DUI.

Officer responded to a call of possible intoxicated driver in the area of Hwy 321 at Food City described to be a White Honda Civic. After being notified the vehicle pulled into Market Drive and continued traveling in the Food City parking lot, Officer patrolled the area locating a White Honda Civic. Officer observed the vehicle as it remained parked in the lane of travel in the parking lot. The vehicle then began traveling at a rate of speed of approximately 4-5 mph. Officer initiated a traffic stop on this vehicle which pulled into the parking lot of Ayala's Mexican Restaurant and parked in a prohibited parking stall.

Officer made contact with the driver and immediately smelled a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage and observed a bag in the passenger floor board containing several Bud Light Cans. Officer asked the driver where he was coming from and if he had consumed any alcoholic beverages in which he stated he was coming from his house where he drank one beer. Officer asked Mr. Vasquez to step out of the vehicle to conduct Standard Field Sobriety Testing. Officer began with Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus in which Officer observed a lack of smooth pursuit, distinct and sustained Nystagmus at maximum deviation, and an onset of Nystagmus prior to 45 degrees. Officer proceeded to the next phase Walk and Turn see slow ctd. pg. 5

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\*A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-banded cord is not easily broken. - Ecclesiastes 3:10

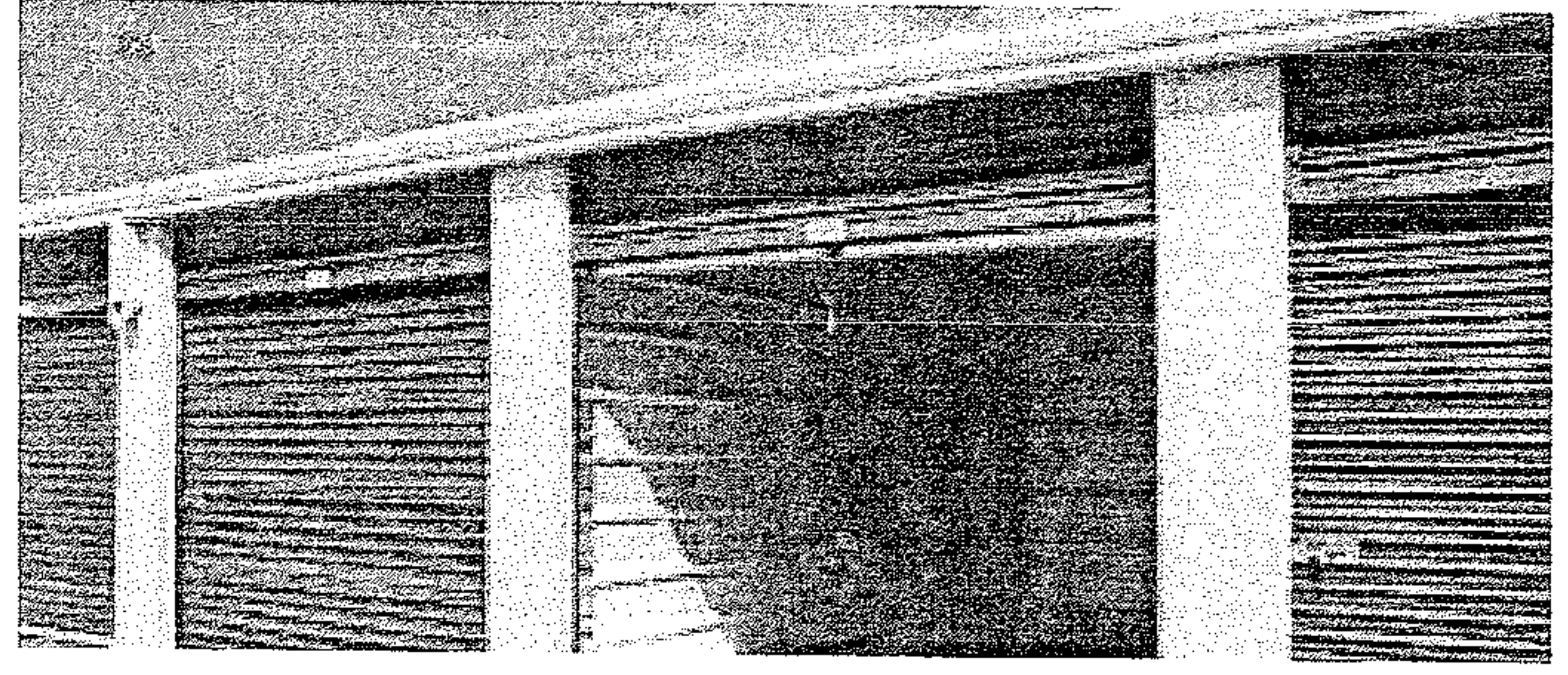
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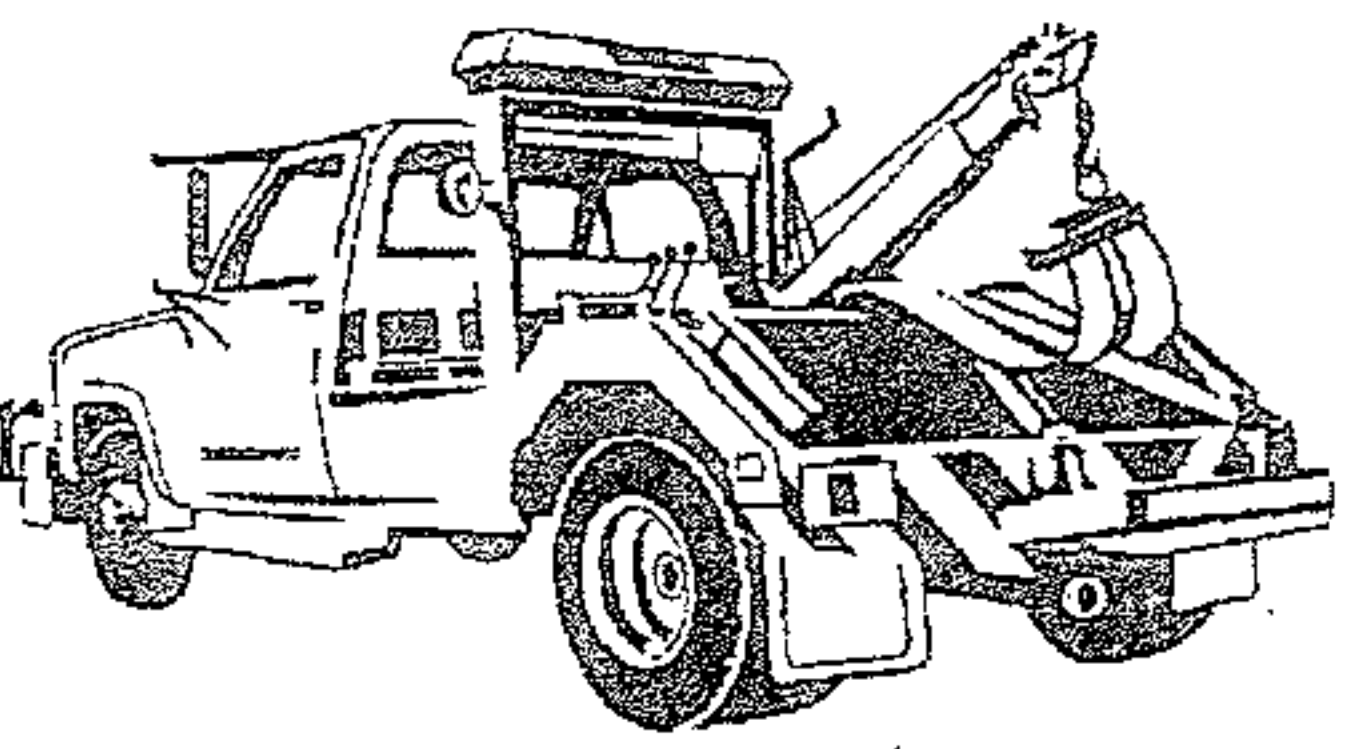
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## Indicted

medical purpose and resulting in deaths, maintenance of drug-involved premises, distribution of oxycodone resulting in death, conspiracy to defraud the United States through the solicitation and receipt of illegal healthcare kickbacks and money laundering.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Acting Assistant Attorney General John P. Cronan of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey of the Eastern District of Tennessee and Special Agent in Charge Renae M. McDermott of the FBI's Knoxville Division made the announcement.

"Throughout this country, and certainly in Tennessee and Florida, the illegal and unconscionable mass-distribution of prescription opioids through the operation of illegal pain clinics has taken a heavy toll on our citizens, families and communities," said Attorney General Sessions. "This sort of profiteering effectively trades human lives for financial riches. The U.S. Department of Justice is determined to stamp out the operation of illegal pain clinics by all legal means, including finding and arresting those responsible wherever they may be in the world."

"The Eastern District of Tennessee has been at the forefront in the battle against illegal pain clinics and mass-prescribing of opioids for years," said U.S. Attorney Overbey. "Now, under the leadership of Attorney General Sessions, additional resources have been made available through recent Department of Justice initiatives, including the Opioid Fraud and Abuse

Task Force. This latest indictment is a real and tangible result of all of those combined efforts. The citizens of East Tennessee can be assured that we are committed to ridding our district of illegal pill mills."

Luca Sartini, 58, of Rome, Italy, and Miami; Luigi Palma aka Jimmy Palma, 51, of Rome, Italy, and Miami; Benjamin Rodriguez, 42, of Delray Beach, Florida; Sylvia Hofstetter, 53, of Knoxville; Courtney Newman, 42, of Knoxville; Cynthia Clemmons, 45, of Knoxville; and Holli Womack aka Holli Carmichael, 44, of Knoxville, are charged in a third superseding indictment filed in the Eastern District of Tennessee.

On Jan. 19, Sartini and Palma were arrested in the Rome, Italy-area by Italian authorities. Extradition is being sought by the United States. Rodriguez is set to self-surrender. All other defendants were previously charged in prior indictments. The case has been assigned to Chief U.S. District Court Judge Thomas A. Varlan in Knoxville.

According to the indictment, Sartini, Palma, Rodriguez, Hofstetter and a co-conspirator charged in another indictment, from about April 2009 to March 2015, ran the Urgent Care & Surgery Center Enterprise (UCSC), which operated opioid based pain management clinics, "pill mills," in Florida and Tennessee, where powerful narcotics were prescribed and/or dispensed. The defendants are alleged to have hired medical providers with DEA registration numbers, which would allow the providers to prescribe controlled

substances. The prescriptions were primarily large doses of highly addictive and potentially deadly controlled substances. As alleged in the indictment, individuals seeking prescriptions would often travel long distances purporting to suffer from severe chronic pain.

The superseding indictment alleges the defendants distributed quantities of oxycodone, oxymorphone and morphine sufficient to generate clinic revenue of at least \$21 million. As per the indictment, the clinics did not accept insurance, received gross fees and ordered unnecessary drug screenings defrauding Medicare. Shell companies were set up to launder the proceeds.

As alleged in the indictment, approximately 700 UCSC enterprise patients are now dead and a significant percentage of those deaths, directly or indirectly, were the result of overdosing on narcotics prescribed by the USSC Enterprise. As alleged in the indictment, the narcotics prescribed by the UCSC enterprise contributed to the deaths of another significant percentage of those patients.

The indictment further alleges that many patients arrived in groups, who were sponsored by drug dealers who paid for the pain clinic visits and prescriptions to obtain all

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sex romp ctd. from pg. 2

of birth she stated her name was Kimberly Ward and her date of birth was 1979. After further investigation it was determined Miss Shoemaker gave a false name and date of birth.

Dispatch then notified Officer Miss Shoemaker had an active warrant out of Georgia for Felon in

Possession of a Firearm. Officer took Miss Shoemaker into custody and transported her to Loudon County Jail.

Officer charged Miss. Shoemaker with Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Criminal Impersonation, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Fugitive from Justice. All the above occurred in Loudon County.

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**Knife**

Taylor Wilson, 25, Hotchkiss Valley Road Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault Felony.

Deputy Z. Frye LCSO, along with B. Dishner, responded to Hotchkiss Valley Rd West in reference to a verbal domestic. Once on scene Deputy made contact with the complainant, Taylor Wilson, also the offender.

The offender stated to Deputy that him and his girlfriend, had gotten into a verbal argument in regards to money. The offender stated that they had a mutual folder of money and he was wanting to get some money out of the folder but victim did not agree. He then stated that his girlfriend became angry with him and went to the back bedroom in the residence and locked herself in the room. The offender then stated that he went back to the bedroom

to try and get her to unlock the door but she would not unlock the door. He then kicked the door open and pushed victim into the wall. They began to argue again and at that point he stated that he went outside of the residence and called 911. Deputy then made contact with the victim. She stated that they had been arguing over a money issue and Mr. Wilson began to get very angry at her. She did state that he had been drinking for most of the night. She stated to me that she went and locked herself in the back bedroom because she was scared that he was going to hurt her. She then said that he grabbed a kitchen knife and was banging on the bedroom door in an attempt to get her to open the door up. She then said that he kicked the door open and threw the knife in her direction and then pushed her

up against the wall. He then left the bedroom and went outside to call 911. The victim did state that she did fear for her life when he threw the knife in her direction. Deputy did observe the offender to be intoxicated at the time of the incident. The victim did write a statement of the events that occurred. This did occur in Loudon County, TN

**Syringes**

Lori Eakins, 33, W Alcove Drive Greenback, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para.

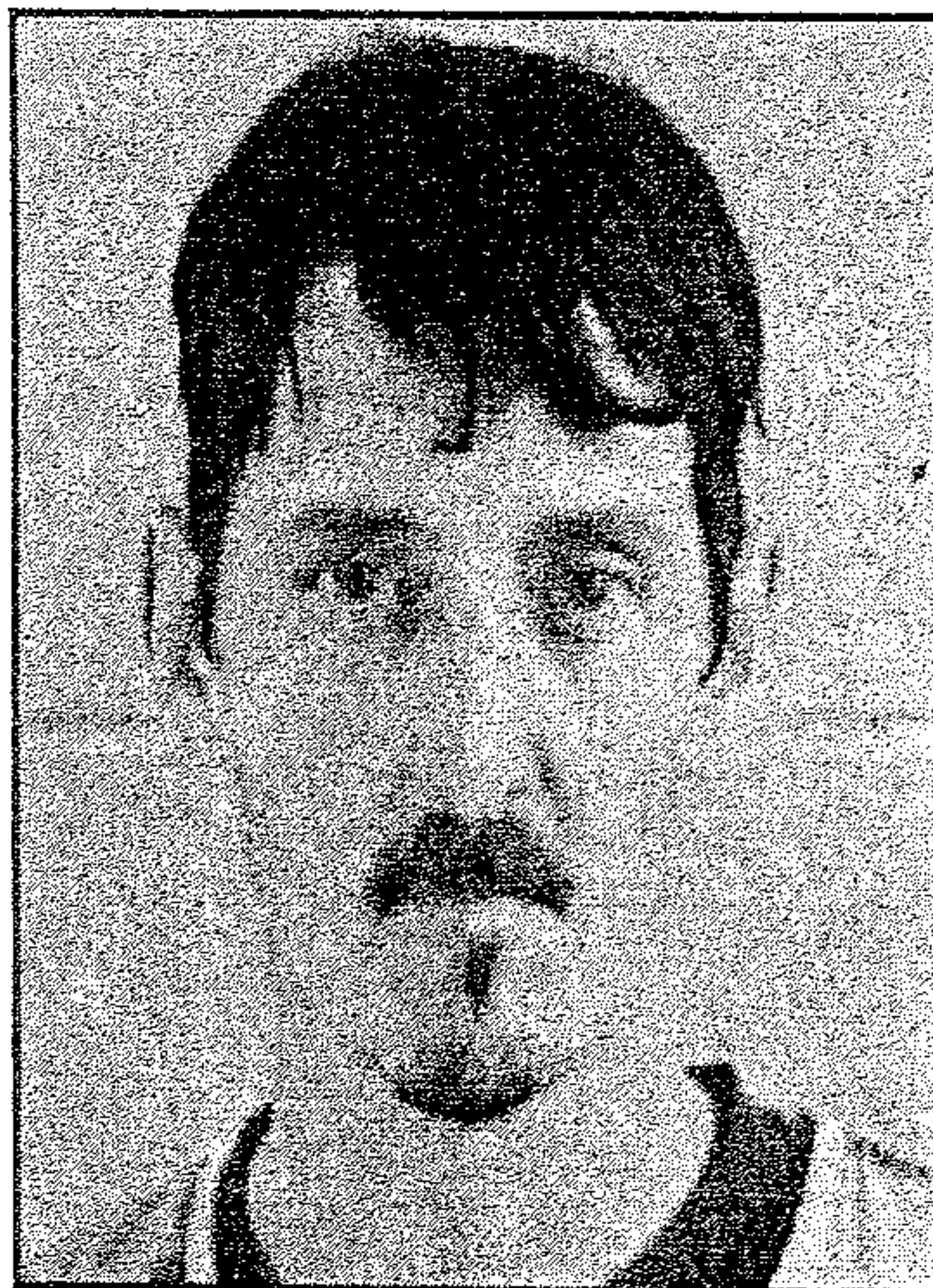
Michael Tuck, 37, W Alcove Drive Greenback, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para., and Assisting Other Agency.

Deputy Cody Fritts LCSO, observed a White Honda Civic in the parking lot of the Dollar General in Greenback. The vehicle was occupied by a male and female who appeared to be looking in the floor board. Deputy made casual contact with the driver and noticed 2 cut cans in the floor board commonly used for the process of injecting pills. Also in plain view in the center console was a pill cutter. The driver was then identified as Michael Tuck and passenger identified as Lori Eakins. Upon running Mr. Tuck through dispatch he was found to have a Suspended Driver License and had 3 warrants out of Blount

County. Deputy asked Mr. Tuck if he had anything illegal on him and he retrieved a syringe from his right pocket. Deputy Ketner ask Ms. Eakins if she had anything illegal on her and she retrieved a Syringe from her pocket. Upon speaking with Ms. Eakins and Mr. Tuck they stated they were using pills. Deputy asked Ms. Eakins where the pills were and she stated when she saw me walking up she ate one Morphine pill. Michael Tuck and Lori Eakins were taken into custody and transported to the Loudon County Jail. This did happen in Loudon County.

Slow ctd. from pg.3

where this subject started too soon, raised his arms, missed heel to toe contact, and took the wrong number of steps. Officer then proceeded to the last phase One Leg Stand in which Mr. Vasquez raised his arms and put his footdown. Officer took Mr. Vasquez into custody and transported him to Loudon County Jail where he gave consent for a breath sample for chemical testing. After observing this subject for the 20 minute observation period, he provided 4 samples, two of which were insufficient. The first sample returned to show a .144 BAC and the second showed a .134 BAC. All the above occurred in Loudon County.




Michael Tuck

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Indicted etd. from pg. 4

or part of the opioids and other narcotics prescribed to the purported pain patients. In return, drug addicted patients would receive a portion of prescribed narcotics for free from the sponsor.

To date, as a result of this investigation, approximately 30 narcotics traffickers have been charged and convicted federally, and approximately 80 to 90 smaller narcotic distributors have also been charged and convicted. Today's superseding indictment is among 35 related indictments charging approximately 140 individuals, including medical providers who worked at the pill mills, with various crimes.

The charges in the

indictment are merely allegations, and the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.


The superseding indictment is the result of an investigation conducted by the the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Criminal Division's Organized Crime and Gang Section, , and the FBI High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) which is comprised of investigators assigned to the task force by the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, Knoxville Police Department, Blount County Sheriff's Office, Roane County Sheriff's Office, Harriman Police Department and Clinton Police Department.

Other agencies provided invaluable assistance, including the Rome Attaché of the Justice Department's Office of International Affairs; the FBI's liaison in Rome; the FBI Miami Health Care Fraud Strike Force; the Hollywood, Florida Police Department; the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Tennessee Department of Health; and the DEA's Knoxville Diversion Group. The Department of Justice extends its gratitude to Interpol and the Italian Financial Police (Guardia di Finanza) for their assistance in locating and apprehending the defendants.


Assistant U.S. Attorneys Tracy L. Stone and Anne-Marie Svolto of the Eastern District of

Tennessee, and Trial Attorney Kelly Pearson of the Criminal Division's Organized Crime and Gang Section, are prosecuting the case.

In light of the nationwide opioid epidemic which led to the declaration of a public health emergency by the Acting Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on Oct. 26, 2017, this superseding indictment represents just the latest in a series of federal efforts in the Eastern District of Tennessee meant to combat the scourge of prescription opioids.



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