



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

Recognized as a Best Practices Agency by
the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



Media Relations Information for 11/01/2018

Public Information Officer – Sgt. Bennie Boles

Office: 281-842-3115

LPPD K9 traffic stop results in seizure of more than 17 grams of methamphetamines

Lonnie Ambrose Bugaj
12/14/1981

Chad Joseph Galik
05/01/1982

In the early evening hours of October 26, 2018, a La Porte Police Department (LPPD) K9 Officer conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of North 4th Street, La Porte Texas. During the traffic stop, the officer developed probable cause for the search of the vehicle. The search resulted in the arrest of both the driver, 36-year-old Lonnie Ambrose Bugaj and passenger, 36-year-old Chad Joseph Galik of Houston Texas.

During the probable cause search of the vehicle, the K9 Officer located and seized more than 1.7 grams of crystal methamphetamines and a locked safe. The Officer's K9 alerted to the safe indicating the contents may contain narcotics.

At the time of the traffic stop the officer contacted the Harris County District Attorney's Office (HCDAO) who accepted the charge of possession of a controlled substance (PCS) penalty group 1, one to four grams of methamphetamine, a 3rd Degree Felony on Lonnie Bugaj. Chad Galik was charged with a State Jail Felony, PCS in penalty group 1, less than a gram of methamphetamine.

The safe was seized, and the LPPD Street Crimes Division obtained a search warrant to open the safe. With a warrant in hand, the safe was opened, and an additional 16 grams of crystal methamphetamines were seized along with drug paraphernalia and other items.

After the traffic stop arrest, both suspects were transported to the La Porte Jail for processing and later transferred to the Harris County Jail where they are currently being held after failing to post bonds. Bugaj has a bond of \$20,000, and Galik has a \$5000 bond.

With the additional seizure of 16 grams of methamphetamines, the LPPD Street Crimes Division has contacted the HCDAO requesting Lonnie Bugaj's charge be upgraded to PCS Penalty Group 1, methamphetamine with the intent to deliver, a first-degree felony. The Texas Penal Code states, an individual adjudged guilty of a felony of the first degree shall be punished by imprisonment in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for life or for any term of not more than 99 years or less than 5 years.



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The La Porte Police Department's K9 and Street Crimes Units are dedicated to proactively seeking out, and responding to any and all suspected narcotic related activity in the city. With each transaction spoiled, the units communicate a clear message to those involved in possession of illegal narcotics, that actions of this nature are not tolerated in the City of La Porte.

If you have any information on suspected narcotic or other illegal activity occurring within the City of La Porte, please contact the La Porte Police Department's Criminal Investigative Division at 281-842-3173 or go to www.laportetx.gov and click on the Criminal Investigative Division link.