

# News Release

METRICH Enforcement Unit  
30 North Diamond Street  
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

Chief Kenneth A Coontz  
Project Director



**For Immediate Release**

**No # 2**

**Date: 02-18-16**

**Contact: Lt. Joy Stortz**  
(419) 755-9728 Fax: (419) 522-7546

**Subject: Search Warrants Served**

On 02-18-16, the METRICH Enforcement Unit assisted by the Mansfield Police Department, Ontario Police Department, Richland County Sheriff's Office, Ashland METRICH, Ashland Police Department, Ashland County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Criminal Investigation served seven (7) simultaneous gambling related search warrants across Richland County.

Lt. Joy Stortz stated that the METRICH Enforcement Unit began receiving complaints that several private clubs and local skill based game rooms were conducting illegal gambling. A lengthy investigation was conducted which revealed that the businesses were in fact operating outside of the Ohio Revised Code by giving large cash payouts to their customers. The Honorable Judge Ardis and the Honorable Judge Ault reviewed and signed the seven (7) search warrants for the Mansfield and Ontario businesses. The seven (7) businesses are listed.

During the searches, Detectives and Officers seized items consistent with illegal gambling, banking documents and \$21,266.00 in U.S. Currency.

This large scale investigation was successful due to the partnership between the above mentioned agencies that assisted. Charges are pending on employees and business owners

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

**Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:  
419-522-7463 and [www.METRICH.com](http://www.METRICH.com)**



**Games 4 U**  
1621 W. Fourth St.  
Ontario

**Sons of Herman**  
416 Orange St.  
Mansfield

**Sons of Italy**  
144 W. Third St.  
Mansfield

**Amvets**  
1100 W. Fourth St.  
Mansfield

**Lucky Spot Skill Games**  
2000 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Ontario

**Skills & Thrills**  
405 Ashland Rd.  
Mansfield

**Buckeye Room Skill Games**  
1060 Park Ave. West  
Mansfield

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

**Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:  
419-522-7463 and [www.METRICH.com](http://www.METRICH.com)**

