



## PRESS RELEASE

Tacoma Police Department  
Tacoma, Washington  
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### IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2024

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### **Narcotics Trafficking Investigation Takes Opioids and Guns Off the Streets of Tacoma**

On Friday, February 16, 2024, authorities from the Tacoma Police Department Patrol and Investigations Division completed a thorough probe into a significant narcotics trafficker operating within Tacoma city limits. This individual was found to specialize in the distribution of fentanyl, methamphetamine, and heroin, primarily along the Pacific Ave corridor.

During the investigation, it was uncovered that the suspect had connections with cartel members near the United States Southern Border. Subsequently, the suspect would transport large quantities of narcotics back to Tacoma for distribution along the Pacific Avenue Corridor. The arrest occurred as the suspect was enroute to Tacoma with another shipment of narcotics obtained from the cartel, which was reportedly based in Mexico.

The apprehension of the suspect and the subsequent execution of a warrant resulted in the discovery and confiscation of eighty-three (83) pounds of methamphetamine, approximately 87,000 fentanyl pills, and nearly half a pound of brown tar heroin with an estimated value of \$550,000.00 USD.

Furthermore, alongside the seizure of narcotics, law enforcement also confiscated a handgun loaded with armor-piercing bullets, commonly known as "cop-killer bullets," as well as body armor worn by the suspect during the arrest. A subsequent search of the suspect's residence uncovered four additional firearms, two of which were reported stolen. Among these firearms were two semi-automatic, 5.56 caliber rifles modified into a "pistol" configuration. Additionally, more armor-piercing ammunition was recovered as evidence.

This investigation and subsequent arrest represent a significant victory in addressing the opioid and fentanyl crisis while also mitigating the violence linked with narcotics trafficking.



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