



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Police Department



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DATE: 6/16/2017

SUBJECT: Four Suspects Formally Charged in St. Louis District Court on Drug Charges

BY: Duluth Police Department Public Information Officer Ron Tinsley

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Public/ Media Notification

CASE NO.: PD17128400

INCIDENT DATE: 6/13/2017

INCIDENT TIME: 11:43 a.m.

INCIDENT LOCATION:

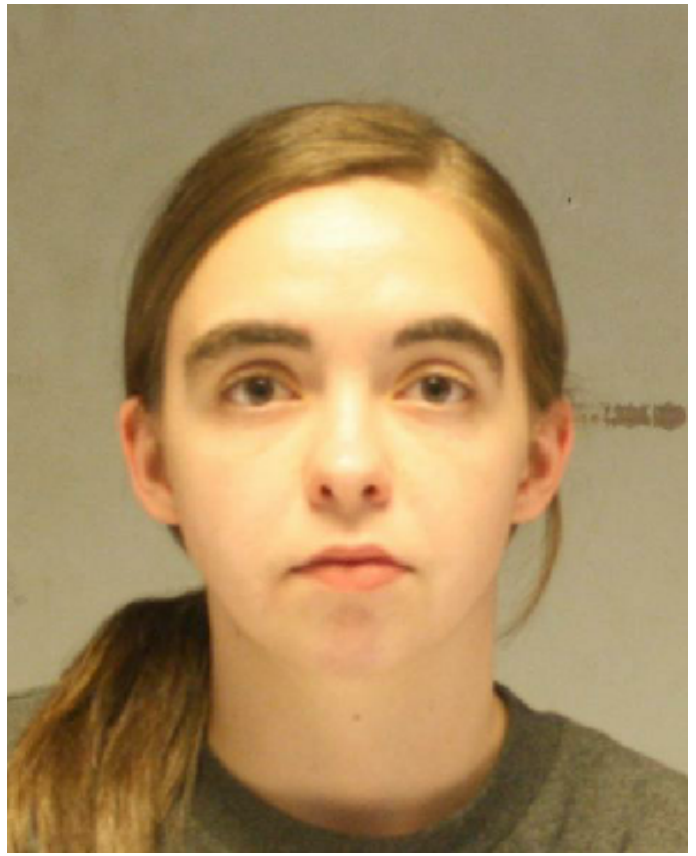
On Tuesday, June 13th 2017, Investigators from the Duluth Police Department and the Lake Superior Drug and Violent Crime Task Force executed a search warrant in the 1300 block of 105th Avenue West, in the City of Duluth. The search warrant was the result of an investigation conducted by the Task Force after receiving neighbor complaints of suspected drug activity at the residence. During a search of the residence Investigators recovered approximately 27 grams of heroin, including heroin individually packaged for sale, drug packaging, digital scales, drug paraphernalia and \$1,334 U.S. currency.

Investigators arrested 28 year old Trahern Deshawn Pollard, from Riverdale, Illinois; 46 year old Robert William Christen, from Duluth; 27 year old Austin John Edberg, from Duluth; and 25 year old Stephanie Ann Berndt, from Duluth. A juvenile female in the residence was taken into protective custody by the St. Louis County Initial Intervention Unit. During the execution of the search warrant, Pollard attempted to flee and discard evidence in the residence but was abruptly detained by investigators.

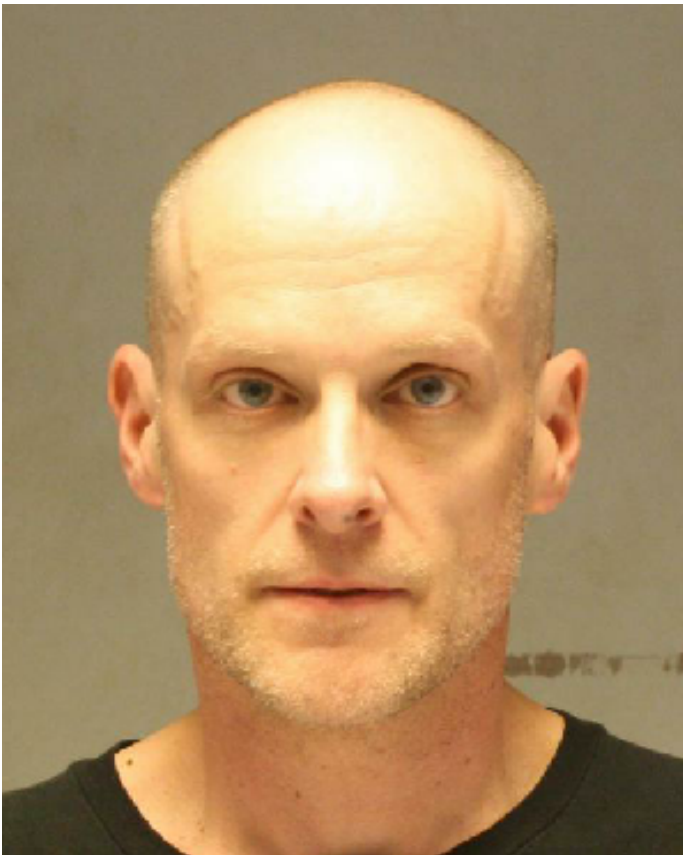
On Friday, June 16th 2017, the St. Louis County Attorney's Office formally charged all four of the arrested persons. Trahern Pollard was charged with Aid and Abet 1st Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance and Contempt of Court. Robert Christen was charged with Aid and Abet 1st Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance. Austin Edberg was charged with Aid and Abet 1st Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance and Child Endangerment. Stephanie Berndt was charged with Child Endangerment. Christen's bail was set at \$100,000. Edberg's bail was set at \$40,000. Berndt's bail was set at \$1,000. At the time of his arrest, Pollard was out on bail from previous 1st Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance, Fleeing Police on Foot and Obstructing the Legal Process charges after he was arrested by the Task Force on March 9th 2017 during the execution of a search warrant in the 1300 block of Minnesota Avenue. During that search warrant, Pollard fled from police and was arrested after a brief foot chase during which Pollard attempted to discard approximately 49 grams of heroin. Pollard's bail on his most recent arrest was set at \$200,000, consecutive with a new \$200,000 bail from his previous arrest, for a grand total for bail of \$400,000.



Pollard



Berndt



Christen



Edberg