

**PSO TED GREEN  
K-9 GERO  
KALAMAZOO DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
Kalamazoo, MI**

On Saturday, 2-21-09, at approximately 1415hrs, I was requested to assist KVET (Kalamazoo Valley Enforcement team) on a traffic stop in the area of Woodward and Patterson, within the City of Kalamazoo. KVET investigators had received information that there was a possibly a large amount of cocaine inside the vehicle. While standing by as another KDPS officer spoke with the driver, I heard that the driver had denied consent to search the vehicle. While conducting a "free air sniff" of the exterior of the vehicle, K-9 Gero stopped at the driver's side door and began to jump into the open window. I prevented K-9 Gero from jumping into the vehicle and had the other two subjects inside removed. I then continued the exterior search.

I placed K-9 Gero inside the vehicle. K-9 Gero went directly to the rear storage area and I observed his mouth slam shut as he began scratching at a large black duffle bag. The large black duffle bag was empty except for a single pair of tennis shoes. The rear seat passenger denied consent to search his person. A secondary search was conducted and there was no drugs or contraband located inside the vehicle.

KVET Investigators requested I assist them to check the rear passenger's residence at 4119 Apple Bluff. I was requested to conduct a search of the doors of the residence.

While searching the garage door, K-9 Gero didn't give any positive alerts to the odor of narcotics. While searching the front door of the residence, K-9 Gero's mouth slammed shut and he took a deep breath at the seam of the door. K-9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from the residence.

Using the K9 alerts on both the rental vehicle from the traffic stop and the front door of the residence of 4119 Apple Bluff, a search warrant was obtained and executed. I assisted with a K9 search of the residence. While searching the upstairs office area, approximately 4ft from the front door of the residence, K-9 Gero stopped at the area of a filing cabinet and a computer. K-9 Gero's mouth slammed shut as he worked the area of the filing cabinet. K-9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from the filing cabinet. I gave K-9 Gero verbal praise and pulled K-9 Gero away from the filing cabinet to continue the search, however, K-9 Gero wouldn't leave the filing cabinet.

KVET Investigator's conducted a hand search of the room starting with the filing cabinet. The KVET Investigator searching the filing cabinet was unable to locate any narcotics. I requested that the KVET Investigator pull the metal bottom up. A plastic baggie containing 13oz of powder cocaine was tucked underneath the bottom of the filing cabinet.

While searching the basement bedroom, K9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from a dresser. A subsequent hand search revealed a small amount of marijuana. We searched a 2<sup>nd</sup> basement bedroom, where K9 Gero gave a positive alert to

the odor of narcotics coming from a small wood canister on the dresser. Approximately ¼ oz of crack cocaine was seized from the wood canister. While searching the south bedroom on the main floor of the residence, K-9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from the dresser drawer. Inside the dresser drawer was a small amount of marijuana and also ¼ oz of crack cocaine.

A total of 13oz of powder cocaine, ½ oz of crack cocaine, approximately 1oz of marijuana and a bullet proof vest was seized from the residence. The suspect, a local minister, was charged with possession with intent to deliver cocaine, possession with intent to deliver crack and possession of a ballistic vest. I am submitting this catch of the quarter given the fact that the driver of the vehicle had denied consent and the vehicle was stopped for a moving violation. K-9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from inside the vehicle during the “free air” sniff. K-9 Gero gave a positive alert to the odor of narcotics coming from the black duffle bag near the back seat passenger. The search warrant was obtained in part using the positive alerts from K-9 Gero on the vehicle and the front door of the residence. The 13oz of powder cocaine was missed during the first search of the filing cabinet. A more thorough search was conducted and the filing cabinet because of K9 Gero’s alert and the 13oz was found concealed underneath the filing cabinet.

