

OPERATION RIP-RIDE

RECOGNIZING THAT THE DRUG PROBLEM WILL BE A DIFFICULT ONE TO POLICE AS LONG AS THERE IS SUCH A TREMENDOUS DEMAND FOR ILLICIT DRUGS, SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO DISCOURAGE THE CONSUMERS. OPERATION RIP-RIDE TARGETS THE CONSUMERS THAT USE THEIR VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT THE DRUGS.

ONCE A HOUSE OR STREET LOCATION WITH HEAVY TRAFFIC IS IDENTIFIED, AN OBSERVATION POST IS ESTABLISHED. AS THE BUYERS ARRIVE AND PURCHASE THE DRUGS, A DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASER AND THE VEHICLE IS PROVIDED TO WAITING MARKED PATROL UNITS. AFTER THE VEHICLES LEAVE THE AREA THEY ARE STOPPED BY THE PATROL UNITS, AND SEARCHED FOR THE DRUGS. WHEN THE DRUGS ARE LOCATED, THE VEHICLE IS IMPOUNDED AND THE OCCUPANTS ARE ISSUED ORDINANCE VIOLATION NOTICES. ALTHOUGH THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION NOTICES ARE THE ENFORCEMENT TOOL, THE FACT THAT THE VEHICLE IS HELD PENDING FORFEITURE IS THE REAL DISCOURAGING FACTOR IN THE OPERATION.