

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Boulder City, Nevada

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2019

CONTACT: **Cmdr. Brent Speyer**
 702-293-9224
 bspeyer@bcnv.org

Methamphetamine Trafficking Investigation

BOULDER CITY - In June 2019 the Boulder City Police Department (BCPD) culminated a four-month investigation into the methamphetamine trafficking activities of the Robert Mestas drug trafficking organization (DTO). Investigators determined that the Mestas' DTO was trafficking in kilogram quantities of methamphetamine on a weekly basis. Mestas created a distribution network whereby he supplied methamphetamine to numerous customers in Las Vegas, Henderson, and Boulder City, Nevada.

Mestas was the main target of the investigation, and numerous undercover controlled narcotics purchases were conducted by or through Mestas at his residence in Las Vegas. Due to the danger and scope of the search warrant, and at the request of BCPD, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) SWAT executed a BCPD search warrant at Mestas' residence in Las Vegas, Nevada. Prior to the warrant execution and service, Mestas and suspect Clara Power left the residence in their 2002 BMW. A marked BCPD K-9 officer on perimeter containment was able to conduct a vehicle stop at a nearby convenience store and detain Mestas and Power in order for LVMPD SWAT to execute the warrant at their residence.

As a result of the search warrant execution, BCPD personnel seized four firearms; \$2,741 in US currency; one vehicle; and approximately 1,618.7 grams of crystal methamphetamine. Additionally, while searching Mestas' residence, officers discovered a mobile forgery lab (used to produce fraudulent documents and credit cards), numerous forms of identification of fraud victims, and additional stolen property. LVMPD's fraud bureau was contacted to assist with the investigation into the forgery lab. Numerous evidentiary items were also discovered during the search, the discovery of which directly led the LVMPD in solving multiple residential burglaries, and reuniting burglary victims with their stolen property.

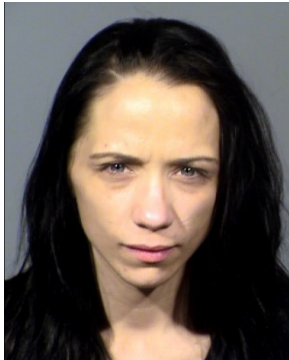
“Boulder City may be a small community but it is not immune to the dangers of illicit drugs,” said Boulder City Police Chief Tim Shea. “Getting these drugs, guns and suspects off the streets of Boulder City could save lives. It certainly helps me sleep easier at night knowing we made a dent in the drug trade here.”

During the course of the investigation, BCPD purchased and/or seized a total of 1,892 grams of crystal methamphetamine; arrested or secured arrest warrants for five suspects; seized four firearms; seized one vehicle 2002 BMW 750i; seized \$2,741 in US currency; and seized one forgery lab. Those arrested during the investigation, and their associated charges are listed below.



Robert MESTAS

51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51460 - O/POSGUN BY PROHIBIT PERS-F, 51460 - O/POSGUN BY PROHIBIT PERS-F, 51306 - CONSP VIOL UCS ACT (1ST) - F, 51306 - CONSP VIOL UCS ACT (1ST) - F, 51088 - OPER PLACE FOR - F, REBOOKING, 50724 - ESTB/POSSESS FIN - F, 50783 - POSS SCAN DEV/RE - F, REBOOKING, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 50724 - ESTB/POSSESS FIN - F, 50783 - POSS SCAN DEV/RE - F



Clara POWER

51088 - OPER PLACE FOR - F, 51127 - POSS SCH I, II, III, IV - F, 51306 - CONSP VIOL UCS ACT (1ST) - F, 51460 - O/POSGUN BY PROHIBIT PERS-F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, 51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F, REBOOKING, 51366 - POSS DRUG NOT FOR I-STATE - M, REBOOKING, 51306 - CONSP VIOL UCS ACT (1ST) - F



Gordon KNIGHTON

51160 - TRAF SCH I C/S - F , 54444 - ARREST FOR VIOL - F



Methamphetamine, firearms & US currency



2002 BMW



Recovered stolen property from LV

