

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4th, 2006

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Crime Solvers Tip Leads to Arrest of Local Area Pharmacy Robbery

Local Citizen Receives \$1000 Reward for Tip Leading to Arrest

April 4th, 2006, Montgomery County, MD — A man suspected of robbing local pharmacies in the Montgomery County area has been arrested as a result of a public outreach effort by *Crime Solvers of Montgomery County*. The arrest follows others in communities around the country where *Crime Solvers* has partnered with *RxPATROL* to offer rewards for information on pharmacy robberies.

Douglas Vincent Minchillo, 49, was arrested in connection with the armed robbery of two local pharmacies. Minchillo is believed to be responsible for the February 11, 2006, robbery of the Ambulatory Care Pharmacy located at 9715 Medical Center Drive in Gaithersburg, and the October 25, 2005, robbery of the White Flint Pharmacy located at 11125 Rockville Pike in Rockville.

Just one day after the Crime Solvers of Montgomery County released video footage offering a cash reward for information that could help the Montgomery County Police Department with its investigation a tip was received. A local resident recognized the suspect from the video footage. The tipster notified authorities of the suspect's name and whereabouts and the arrest was made.

"We received a tip from a quick thinking citizen who saw media reports about the robbery and the reward," said Officer Derek Baliles, Police Coordinator for Crime Solvers of Montgomery County, Maryland. "It is extremely helpful when the public comes forward with information that can lead to the arrest of suspects."

Crime Solvers of Montgomery County will provide a cash reward to the individual who provided the tip. The cash reward was donated by pharmaceutical company Purdue Pharma L.P., which distributes OxyContin® (oxycodone HCl controlled-release) Tablets. *RxPATROL*, a program designed to help prevent and solve pharmacy crime, is working with Crime Solver groups throughout the country to provide rewards for information that leads to an arrest in a pharmacy robbery or burglary.

This recent arrest follows others in Jersey City, NJ where three suspects were arrested for a string of robberies, Chambersburg, PA where local authorities arrested a man in connection with a string of pharmacy robberies last fall and Columbus, OH where a suspect was arrested after kidnapping a pharmacist during a robbery. Each of these arrests was a direct result of information from local residents who saw press reports about the robberies and the reward offered by *RxPATROL*.

"*Crime Solvers of Montgomery County* is very thankful for the public's continued support in helping local law enforcement solve crimes in our communities. These recent arrests prove that the public's assistance is vital to helping us solve these cases," said *Crime Solvers president* Jeff Penn.

All information that comes into *Crime Solver of Montgomery County* tip line as well as any other *Crime Solvers* tip line is kept completely confidential. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court. Anyone with information about any recent pharmacy robberies in the Washington Metropolitan area is asked to call Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477).

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