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## **Crime Stoppers Tips Lead to Arrests in Pharmacy Robbery** *Anonymous Tipster(s) to Receive Up to \$1,000 Reward*

**March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Charlevoix, MI** — A man suspected of robbing a local pharmacy in the Charlevoix area has been arrested as a result of a public alert and reward issued by *RxPATROL/Crime Stoppers*. Charlevoix police have arrested Robert Jason Wilkes in connection with a robbery that occurred on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Central Drug Store located on Bridge Street. All suspects are deemed innocent until proven guilty.

In January, *RxPATROL/Crime Stopper* asked for the public's assistance in investigating the pharmacy robbery and offered a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information that could help the police with their investigation. The cash reward is donated by pharmaceutical company Purdue Pharma L.P., the company which distributes OxyContin® (oxycodone HCl controlled-release) Tablets and which developed and funds RxPATROL.

“We received several calls from residents almost immediately after issuing the alert on the robbery,” said Crime Stoppers coordinator Chuck Kreimer. “It is extremely helpful when the public comes forward with information that can lead to the arrest of suspects.”

Purdue Pharma, L.P. developed RxPATROL (Rx Pattern Analysis Tracking Robberies & Other Losses) in 2003 as a collaborative effort between industry, pharmacists and law enforcement to collect, collate, analyze and disseminate information on pharmacy theft. In 2005, Purdue partnered with Crime Stoppers and affiliated local programs throughout the country to offer rewards for information that would help lead to the arrest of pharmacy robbery suspects.

This arrest follows several others in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Utah and Pennsylvania. To date, 28 arrests have been made as a result of the partnership between Purdue's RxPATROL program and local Crime Stoppers affiliated programs.

“We are proud to support the efforts of Crime Stoppers and other affiliated programs throughout the United States,” said RxPATROL program coordinator Capt. Richard Conklin.

All information that comes into *RxPATROL/Crime Stoppers* tip line as well as any other *Crime Stoppers* 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 area is asked to call ***RxPATROL Tip line at 1-888-4RXTIPS.***

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