

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Crime Stoppers Tip Leads to Arrest of Local Area Pharmacy Robbery

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

March 6, 2006, Cincinnati, OH — A man suspected of robbing a local pharmacy in the Cincinnati area has been arrested as a result of a public outreach effort by *Crime Stoppers*. The arrest follows others in communities around the country where *Crime Stoppers* has partnered with *RxPATROL* to offer rewards for information on pharmacy robberies.

Scott Wheat, 35, was arrested in connection with the armed robbery of a local Walgreens in Anderson Township. He is currently awaiting arraignment in the Hamilton County jail.

Just one day after the incident, *Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Crime Stoppers* offered a \$1,000 cash reward for information that could help the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department with its investigation. A local resident recognized the suspect from a description of his clothing in media reports. The tipster notified authorities of the suspect's whereabouts and the arrest was made.

"We received a tip from a quick thinking citizen who heard media reports about the robbery and the reward," said Detective Jones of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. "It is extremely helpful when the public comes forward with information that can lead to the arrest of suspects."

Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Crime Stoppers will provide a \$1,000 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 Stoppers* 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 Columbus, OH, where a pharmacy robber kidnapped a pharmacist, and in Jersey City, NJ, where three men were arrested last fall in connection with a string of pharmacy robberies. Those arrests were a direct result of information from local residents who saw press reports about the robberies and the reward offered by *RxPATROL Crime Stoppers*.

"*Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Crime Stoppers* 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 help is vital to helping us solve these cases," said *Crime Stoppers* president Mike Snowden.

All information that comes into *greater Cincinnati 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 ***Crime Stoppers at 1-513-352-3040***.

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