



# ***Owensboro Police Department***

**Art Ealum  
Chief of Police**

**222 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Owensboro, KY 42303**

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

**OFFICE:** Public Information Office  
**DATE OF RELEASE:** January 6, 2024  
**REPORT NUMBER:** 24-578  
**SUBJECT:** News Release  
**RELEASED BY:** Officer Dylan Evans

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Search Warrant Leads to Arrest of Owensboro Man on Various Trafficking Charges**

On Friday, January 5, 2024, at 8:53 P.M., Officers with the Owensboro Police Department responded to the 1700 Block of Locke Avenue for an Overdose complaint of an adult male subject. Officers made contact with the subject allegedly suffering from an overdose at his residence. Officers observed evidence of illegal drug activity in the residence.

Officers attempted to place the subject into custody, at which time the subject resisted and after a short struggle officers were able to place the subject into handcuffs. The subject attempted to escape the officer's custody from the residence before being placed into a police cruiser. The subject was transported to Owensboro Health Regional Hospital for medical clearance.

After securing the subject, officers investigated the evidence of illegal drug activity. Detectives from the Owensboro Police Department Street Crimes Unit responded to the scene and took over the investigation. Detectives obtained a search warrant for the residence which resulted in the seizure of a Draco pistol, a Glock firearm with an extended magazine, over 40 Oxycontin pills, several baggies of suspected cocaine, various amounts of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

Eric Markwell Jr (25 years old of Owensboro) was arrested and transported to the Daviess County Detention Center on the following charges:

- Trafficking in Controlled Substance, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 2<sup>nd</sup> or Greater Offense – (Less than 10 Dosage Units Opiates) (Enhancement)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Greater than or Equal to 4 Grams Cocaine) (Enhancement)
- Trafficking in Marijuana (Less than 8 Ounces) 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Enhancement)
- Possession of Handgun by Convicted Felon

- Possession of Controlled Substance, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense Hydrocodone (Enhancement)
- Escape 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree (Attempt)
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Resisting Arrest

**Markwell Jr has previously been charged with the following charges:**

- Trafficking Controlled Substance Within 1,000 Feet of School
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Greater or Equal to 10 Dosage Units Opiates)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Greater or Equal to 10 Dosage Units Hallucinogen)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Greater or Equal to 20 but Less or Equal to 120 Dosage Units Drug Unspecified)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Less than 10 Dosage Units Drug Unspecified Scheduled 1 & 2)
- Possession of Controlled Substance 1<sup>st</sup> Degree 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Drug Unspecified)
- Trafficking in Marijuana (8 Ounces to Less than 5 Pounds) 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (2 Counts)
- Wanton Endangerment 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- Probation Violation (For Felony Offense)
- Tampering with Physical Evidence
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

**Anyone with additional information can call OPD at 270-687-8888, or leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers at 270-687-8484.**