

The Cambridge Police Special Investigation Unit (SIU) initiated “Operation Central Crack Down” as a result of neighborhood complaints of an increase in street level drug activity that was disrupting the quality of life for both the residential and business community of Central Square and the surrounding neighborhood.

Starting in June 2009 the SIU with the assistance of the Everett Police Department Drug Unit began an undercover drug investigation with the goal of infiltrating street level dealers with hand to hand buys to an undercover officer. This strategy was designed to assist in securing solid prosecutions involving mandatory jail time with the goal of having an impact on improving conditions in the neighborhood.

The SIU and Everett Drug Unit committed themselves as partners in a four (4) month long intensive undercover investigation. The professional assistance that was provided in terms of commitment and man hours for this operation went well beyond expectations. These combined efforts eventually led to the successful arrests and complaint applications for over twenty (20) drug distributors operating within the City of Cambridge. Everett PD Narcotics Unit additionally assisted with a joint surveillance of a Central Square based drug trafficking target that left the City of Cambridge to make a purchase of a large quantity of cocaine. As a result of surveillance efforts two subjects were arrested and a seizure of over seven ounces of cocaine that was destined for Cambridge was made.

On September 10th and 11th The SIU coordinated a combined operation to serve warrants on the drug distributors that were identified during the course of the investigation. As part of this operation the SIU also developed a buy/bust strategy whereby other street level dealers were approached and after making sales to undercover officers were promptly arrested. As a result of this investigation a total of twenty-five (25) suspects will face criminal charges for drug distribution in the city. While this operation has been concluded, the SIU will continue to follow up and monitor this area closely.