



Warren C. Evans
Sheriff

News Release

Sheriff Contact: John Roach – 313.213.5162

Release Date: Thursday, December 7, 2006

Motion Picture Assoc. of America honors sheriff's deputies for anti-movie piracy efforts

- *Officers made two recent cases that involved thousands of bootlegged movies*

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) recently recognized officers from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office who in the past year helped shut down two illegal operations that were pirating and selling thousands of movies on DVD, Sheriff Warren Evans said today.

Lead investigator Ofc. Ray Johnson, along with fellow officers Kristyn Montgomery, Jeanette Treadwell, Erin Diamond, William Liczbinski and Sgt. Bruce Christnagel were recognized and given a plaque by MPAA Senior Investigator James Schoenherr at a December 1st luncheon in Detroit.

One case involved Michael Gray, 50, a Melvindale man who initially was arrested on charges of possessing child pornography, but who further investigation revealed had been copying hundreds of movie titles and selling the to friends and co-workers. Gray was convicted on both counts and is currently in state prison for up to 20 years.

The other case is still pending and involves a couple from the city of Wayne, Donald Jenkins, 45, and Sandra Wood, 46, who were found to have more than 4,000 pirated DVDs in their home, along with duplicating equipment. The case began with a tip from MPAA investigators. Jenkins and Wood have been charged and are awaiting trial.

Evans said that because of technology and access to duplicating machines, this is a growing area of crime and his office aggressively investigates all complaints it receives.

"A lot of people may think that this is a victimless crime, but it isn't. Otherwise it wouldn't be so lucrative," Evans said. "We take these complaints, like any other, very seriously and our investigators have done an excellent job in these instances. We appreciate the MPAA for recognizing their efforts."