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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LA PORTE COUNTY METRO OPERATIONS ARRESTS ADULT AND JUVENILE IN LA PORTE FOR DEALING COCAINE

The La Porte County Metro Operations Unit has announced the recent arrests of two (2) males for their role in dealing cocaine. On Thursday, July 18, 2014 investigators from the La Porte County Metro Operations Unit arrested 50 year old Joseph M. SZYNAL and a 15 year old male juvenile for Dealing Cocaine. Both were arrested without incident at a residence located in the 100 block of McClung Road in La Porte.

SZYNAL was arrested as the result of an investigation into the distribution of cocaine in and around the City of La Porte. An arrest warrant had been issued by La Porte County Circuit Court for two (2) counts of Dealing in a Schedule II Controlled Substance (cocaine), a class "B" felony. He has since been released after posting a \$25,000 bond.

During the course of the investigation, investigators developed probable cause to arrest a 15 year old Chicago boy for Dealing Cocaine. He was charged with Dealing in a Schedule II Controlled Substance, a Level 4 felony. He was taken to the La Porte County Juvenile Services Center where he is still being held pending an appearance in Juvenile Court. A seizure of cocaine was made incident to his arrest.

These recent arrests are the result of on-going investigations involving the distribution of narcotics and illegal drugs in and around the La Porte area. Additional arrests are anticipated. The public is encouraged to report potential drug activity to the La Porte County Metro Operations Unit by calling (219) 325-9022. The Metro Operations Unit is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force comprised of investigators from the La Porte County Sheriff's Office and La Porte Police Department.

<sup>\*</sup>The charges against the defendants are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty