

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR
MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
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THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2025

MDEA PRESS RELEASE

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025 ELLSWORTH, MAINE- The Maine Drug Enforcement Agency announces the arrest of 3 people following a traffic stop and search warrant in the City of Ellsworth, Maine

Arrested:

George Pickard (35) of Franklin – Class A Aggravated Trafficking of Fentanyl and Cocaine. Picard was currently released on probation for Class A Aggravated Trafficking. No bail and held on probation.

Kathryn Christensen (32) of Gouldsboro – Class A Aggravated Trafficking of Cocaine HCL, Cocaine Base and Fentanyl. At the time of her arrest, Christensen was free on 2 sets of bail which included unlawful possession of methamphetamine, cocaine base and Oxycodone (Class C) and for violation of conditions of release (Class E). No bail.

Sharod Nunes (46) of Lewiston – Class A Aggravated Trafficking of Cocaine, Cocaine Base (crack) and Fentanyl. No bail.

On Wednesday afternoon, July 2, 2025, drug agents assigned to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency Downeast Drug Task Force based in Ellsworth continued a lengthy investigation into a drug distribution network operating throughout Hancock and Washington Counties. During the investigation, agents conducted surveillance at an Ellsworth area hotel that led to a motor vehicle stop by the Maine State Police on US Route 1 in Ellsworth at approximately 12:11pm. The 2022 Harley Davidson motorcycle was operated by George Pickard of Franklin. As a result of the stop, a search of Mr. Pickard was conducted pursuant to the conditions of his probation. Pickard was currently on probation for a prior Unlawful Trafficking conviction. As a result of the search, Pickard was found to be in possession of 179.2 ggw (gross gram weight) of suspected cocaine

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HCl, 118.1ggw of fentanyl and \$6,465.00 is suspected drug proceeds. Pickard was transported to the Hancock County Jail without incident.

After Pickard's arrest, drug agents and members of the Ellsworth Police Department continued surveillance at the Ellsworth hotel Pickard was observed leaving. Based on information gathered during the investigation, agents drafted and executed a search warrant at the Ellsworth hotel at approximately 1:39 pm. As a result, agents seized 11.8g of fentanyl, 10.7ggw of cocaine base (crack), 49.1ggw of cocaine and approximately \$6,465.00 in suspected drug proceeds from the hotel room.

In total agents seized 228.3ggw Cocaine, 129.9ggw fentanyl, 10.7ggw Cocaine Base (Crack) and \$12,930.00 in suspected drug proceeds. The estimated street value of the drugs is over \$36,000.00

More arrests and charges are expected based on this investigation.

Booking photos are available from Hancock County Jail.

Maine Drug Enforcement's Down East Task Force was assisted by Maine State Police, Ellsworth Police Department, US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Maine Probation & Parole.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The MDEA stands committed to working with all federal, state, county, and local law enforcement partners in order to continue to identify and disrupt drug trafficking organizations who are attempting to distribute illicit drugs like fentanyl, cocaine and methamphetamine in the State of Maine.

If you or someone you know suffers from substance, use disorder, please call 211 or text your zip code to 898-211 for a list of resources available in your area.

If you have information about this investigation or the illegal sale of drugs in your community, you are urged to contact the Maine Drug Enforcement office closest to you or by texting MDEA to TIP411 (847411) or by calling the MDEA tip-line at 1-800-452-6457.