



St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

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PRESS RELEASE

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Tribal Police Make Drug-related Arrests

Akwesasne Mohawk Territory – The Drug Investigation Unit of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Department and the New York State Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Narcotics Division made a series of drug-related arrests on December 17, 2012. The arrests followed an investigation into alleged possession and sale of cocaine.

Owen Swamp, 35, Melissa Papineau, 35 and Crystal Cook-Swamp, 34, all of Akwesasne, were arrested on December 17, 2012 and charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance. Both Swamp and Cook-Swamp are held in Franklin County Jail until arraignment on December 20, 2012.

The Tribal Drug Unit and NYS Narcotics Division also arrested Melissa Papineau, 35 after an investigation alleging that Papineau did possess and sell prescription pills, a controlled substance. Papineau is also held in Franklin County Jail awaiting arraignment scheduled for December 20, 2012. "I appreciate the great work done together by our tribal and state investigators," said Andy Thomas, Akwesasne Mohawk Tribal Police Chief. "Really, this teamwork is the best way for us to effectively enforce the law against illegal drugs. I also appreciate the community's support in fighting illegal drugs and dealers."

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The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council is the duly elected and federally recognized government of the Saint Regis Mohawk People.