



PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh Announces Indictment of Beltsville Man for Illegal Possession of Firearms and Drugs *Defendant Found with Drugs, Illegal Firearms and Police Impersonation Equipment*

BALTIMORE, MD (April 16, 2018) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today announced the 22-count indictment of Tom Huynh of Beltsville. Charges in the indictment include illegal possession of a firearm with a disqualifying conviction, illegal possession of an assault weapon, illegal possession of a stolen firearm, possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute, and impersonating law enforcement. The investigation was led by the Maryland Office of the Attorney General and the Maryland State Police (MSP) Gun Enforcement Section.

The investigation began with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) investigating Discount Auto Sounds, Inc., Huynh's automotive accessories business in Washington, D.C. Undercover MPD officers approached Huynh on 10 occasions and sold him merchandise they described as "stolen" or "hot," in exchange for U.S. currency, a firearm, ammunition, and heroin. Huynh told the undercover officer that he maintained a stash of firearms at his home in Beltsville. MPD contacted the MSP Gun Enforcement Section to handle the Maryland nexus of the investigation.

Pursuant to a search warrant, Huynh's home in Beltsville and car were searched. In a hidden compartment in his bedroom, Maryland state troopers found five firearms, all of which Huynh was prohibited from possessing due to an earlier weapons conviction. Two of the firearms had been reported stolen in West Virginia, and another was an illegal AK-47 assault rifle. During the search, law enforcement also discovered magazines and ammunition for the weapons, over \$25,000 in cash, dozens of painkillers, including Percocet and OxyContin, and police impersonation equipment, including MPD collar ornaments, red and blue lights on his vehicle, and a Detective's Family Member badge with the words "Family Member" taped over.

"Mr. Huynh illegally possessed drugs and guns, including an AK-47, an assault rifle that is banned in Maryland. He was also selling stolen merchandise," said Attorney General Frosh. "The strong partnerships we have with local and state law enforcement enabled us to indict Mr. Huynh for crimes that carry sentences of many years."

Huynh is currently being held without bond in Prince George's County.

In making today's announcement, Attorney General Frosh thanked Organized Crime Chief Katie Dorian, Assistant Attorney General Jared Albert, and Detective Sergeant Frank Lopez of the MSP Gun Enforcement Section. Attorney General Frosh also thanked U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jessie K. Liu, MPD Police Chief Peter Newsham, and State's Attorney for Prince George's County Angela Alsobrooks for their assistance in this investigation.

A criminal indictment is merely an accusation of wrongdoing, and a defendant is presumed innocent until the State proves the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.