

# PRESS RELEASE

**METRICH Enforcement Unit**  
30 North Diamond Street  
Mansfield, Ohio 44902



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**  
Lt. Dino Sgambellone  
(419) 755-9728 Fax: (419) 522-7546

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **“FRAUDULENT MDMA DISCOVERED IN LOCAL SAMPLES”**

MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine), is most commonly known today by the street name Ecstasy. The chemical properties of MDMA result in a broad range of acute effects including those normally associated with stimulants and psychedelics. MDMA is most popular among teens and young adults. Its appearance is that of a small, brightly colored pill. Ecstasy tablets are scored with a number of different pictures including such things as dolphins and apples, as well as a number of different logos such as “CK” and “MTV.”

There are numerous negative health risks associated with the use of MDMA. Unfortunately, these risks are increased because of the wide variety of fraudulent MDMA that has entered the illicit drug market. MDMA has been found to contain PCP, ketamine, caffeine, methamphetamine and other undesirable and dangerous drugs.

More and more, local samples of ecstasy throughout the METRICH region are found to be fraudulent. Typical combinations being tested include caffeine and methamphetamine. However, yellow “CK” tablets have been analyzed and found to contain a mixture of caffeine, benzylpiperazine (BZP) and Trifluoromethylphenylpiperazine (TFMPP). There is no MDMA in the samples.

Given the lack of production standards within the clandestine labs that produce MDMA, the use of these tablets is extremely hazardous given the broad range of chemicals contained within them as well as the potential variance in dosage.

Further information on MDMA and ecstasy can be obtained by calling Lt. Dino Sgambellone at 419-755-9728. Further information on the chemical properties can be obtained by calling Lab Director Tony Tambasco at 419-755-9725.

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

**Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:**  
**1-800-589-DARE and [www.METRICH.com](http://www.METRICH.com)**

**###**