



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

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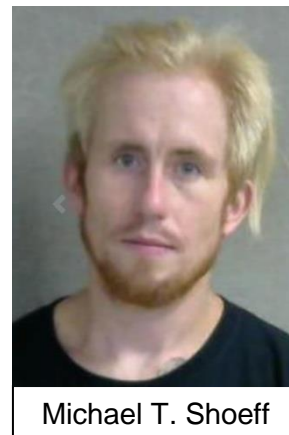
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
prosecutor@co.delaware.in.us
Date: April 26, 2023

**JURY CONVICTS HABITUAL OFFENDER OF
DEALING IN A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE RESULTING IN DEATH**

Muncie Indiana – Today a Delaware County jury deliberated for approximately one and a half hours before convicting Michael T. Schoeff (DOB 5/9/1985) of Dealing in a Controlled Substance Resulting in Death, a Level 1 Felony. The jury also found Schoeff to be an Habitual offender because has previously been convicted of at least two (2) prior unrelated felonies. On August 25, 2022, a separate Delaware County jury convicted Schoeff of Conspiracy to Commit Dealing in a Narcotic Drug a Level 5 Felony. A copy of the Affidavit for Probable Cause for Arrest is Attached. The Honorable John M. Feick, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court No. 4 set sentencing for May 17, 2023. Pursuant to Indiana law:



Michael T. Schoeff

- A Level 1 Felony is punishable by 20 – 40 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Level 5 Felony is punishable by 1 – 6 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- The Habitual Offender Enhancement can add an additional 6 – 20 years to the total sentence.

After the verdict was returned, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman said “This marks the fifth time a jury has found a defendant guilty of Dealing Resulting in Death. Accountability is the touchstone of our criminal justice system and reformation. Our community is speaking loud and clear – if you deal drugs in this county and one of your customers dies as result you will be held accountable. I am proud of Chief Deputy Zach Craig and Deputy Prosecutor Andrew Ramirez, Prosecutor Investigators Heather Stanley and Alyssa Sorrell as well as Muncie Police Officer Matthew Berger for their hard work and dedication in this case. After the verdict Chief Deputy Prosecutor Craig said we no longer allow drug dealers to prey on the weak and vulnerable in our community.”

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AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, **Matthew Berger**, a police officer of the Muncie Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF ARRESTEE: **Michael Tyler Schoeff** CASE REPORT #: 20-39848

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: **1209 W 17th St. Muncie, IN 47302**

ARRESTEE DATE OF BIRTH: **05/09/1985**

DATE OF ARREST: **11/03/2020** TIME OF ARREST: **12:36pm**

CHARGE 1: **Dealing in a Narcotic Drug resulting in Death** a level 1 **FELONY**

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:

On 10/20/2020 I was assigned a death investigation. The death was the result of Mandy Hart overdosing. The night or morning of the overdose Officers were able to speak with Hart's boyfriend Matt Stockton and get Mandy Hart's phone and passcode. Stockton explained that they bought drugs from Vera Morgan and Michael Schoeff. Stockton showed facebook messages between Hart and Morgan. Those messages were photographed that night and the phone was collected so it could be downloaded and anylyzed. On 10/28/2020 Stockton came to City Hall for a statement. Stockton explained the entire day from the time of picking Hart up with his father at Harbor Lights in Indianapolis, In. Stockton explained that Mandy had her mind made up to get dope when she got to Muncie, In before they even picked her up. Stockton stated when they got home Mandy contacted Vera Morgan in attempt to get dope from her. Stockton stated that Mandy and him eventually met Vera Morgan and Michael Schoeff at the gas station located at Port and Hoyt St. Stockton stated they were in a black vehicle, sedan style, later determined to be a Black Ford Fusion returning to Vera Morgan with Indiana license plate DPC293. Stockton advised he watch Mandy hand Morgan \$40.00 in U.S. Currency and Vera in return hand Mandy a small clear bag containing what they thought was heroin. Stockton explains that it was raining and Vera offered them a ride to near Stockton's residence. They took the ride and was dropped off near 9th and Hoyt. Stockton explained that the two walked back to his house and began using the dope which he estimated to be about a quarter of a gram. Stockton stated after they split one shot Mandy overdosed and he had to help bring her back. Stockton stated after that she forgot it had happened and they both took another shot. Stockton stated he passed out and when he woke up found Mandy not breathing. Stockton stated the dope came from Vera Morgan that they used that night and that they did not purchase from anyone else.

Schoeff and Morgan were both located and taken to Muncie City Hall where I spoke with them. At approx. 1:34pm I read Schoeff his rights acknowledgment and waiver. Schoeff stated he

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understood his Statement of rights and signed. I then read Schoeff his waiver of rights. Schoeff stated he understood and signed at approx. 1:36pm. Schoeff denied giving Hart heroin that night, however stated they did give them a ride to 9th and Hoyt from the Port and Hoyt gas station. Further Schoeff admitted to dealing heroin to support his and Vera's heroin addiction. Schoeff did admit that they sold Hart and Stockton a quarter gram for \$40.00 during Hart's birthday week and that they used it at his house located at 1209 W. 17th St. Schoeff explained that Hart began to overdose that night, but Stockton helped her stay awake and come out of it.

I affirm under perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

DATED: 11-3-2020 OFFICER: [Signature] 0701

JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING A JUDICIAL OFFICER OF DELAWARE COUNTY, AND HAVING REVIEWED THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT, NOW DETERMINES THAT PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTED FOR THE ARREST OF SAID ARRESTEE AND NOW FIXES BAIL IN THE PENAL SUM OF \$100,000.00 CASH OR SURETY.

DATED: 11/04/2020 SIGNED: [Signature] TITLE: Judge *Deputed based on prior Felony*

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Michael Tyler Schoeff

CASE REPORT #: 20-39848

File by: 11/12/20 @ 9am