



# City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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**MICHAEL D. AVERY, Chief of Police**

## Press Release

**DATE and TIME OF INCIDENT: June 4, 2007**

**TYPE OF INCIDENT: H&S 11379.6(a) – Manufacture Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine), H&S 11377 – Possession of Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine), 11364 H&S- Possess Controlled Substance Paraphernalia and H&S 11357(b) – Possession of less than 1 ounce of marijuana.**

**VICTIM: State of California**

**LOCATION OCCURRED: 300 blk. Of W. Moyer**

**SUSPECT: William Jay Gifford, 300 blk. Of W. Moyer, City of Ridgecrest**

On 6-4-07, Ridgecrest Police Department Detective Kristen Lawson developed information that William Gifford, age 51, was manufacturing the controlled substance, methamphetamine, in a garage at his residence in the 300 blk. of W. Moyer Ave. Based on the probable cause developed, Det. Lawson obtained a search warrant for Gifford's residence.

Agents from the Southern Tri-County HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) Task Force, joined Detectives and Officers from the Ridgecrest Police Department in serving this search warrant. During the service of this warrant, a clandestine methamphetamine lab was located in Gifford's garage. While not in use, laboratory glassware and fixtures were located along with chemicals associated with the manufacture of methamphetamine. Small amounts of methamphetamine, a small amount of marijuana and narcotics paraphernalia were also located and seized. Due to the dangerous nature of chemicals and gases involved in the manufacturing process of methamphetamine, the lab equipment and chemicals were collected and seized by the HIDTA Agents.

Gifford was booked at the Kern County Jail/ Ridgecrest substation and held on \$36,500.00 bail.

**MICHAEL D. AVERY Chief of Police**

**PREPARED BY: Sgt. Paul A. Wheeler**

**Tuesday, June 05, 2007 15:11**