Orange Suspect Arrested with Semi-Auto Handgun and Pound of Marijuana

Newark – An Orange man was arraigned today on multiple weapons and narcotics charges following his arrest yesterday by Essex County sheriff’s officers and Orange police.

Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that detectives from his department’s Bureau of Narcotics and the Orange Police Department conducted a surveillance operation as part of an on-going drug investigation at 457 Maryland Street in Orange late Monday afternoon prior to executing a search warrant at that location.
The task force officers observed as the target of the investigation, Antonio Jones, age 44, exited his residence carrying a white plastic bag. Jones got into a 2002 Ford F-150 pick-up truck, threw the bag across the center console and drove away.

Fontoura said that Jones was followed by the BON detectives and Orange police. The suspect was eventually pulled over near the intersection of Central Avenue and 1st Street in Newark.

When the officers approached the pick-up they could smell the odor of raw marijuana. The suspect’s plastic bag was found to contain 175 grams of the narcotic.

Back at Maryland Street, BON detectives and Orange police made a forced entry into the residence and discovered an additional 375 grams of marijuana in the suspect’s bedroom.

In all, one pound of marijuana with a street value of $5,000 was seized during the operation.

A fully loaded, .45 caliber, Smith and Wesson semi-automatic handgun and a box of ammunition were also discovered on top of a kitchen cabinet.

Jones was charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of CDS with intent to distribute, possession of CDS with intent to distribute with 500 feet of Bell Stadium, possession of a weapon while committing a CDS offense and possession of a weapon by a convicted felon. Jones was also issued a motor vehicle summons for transporting CDS in a motor vehicle.

At today’s arraignment, Judge Marilyn Williams ordered Jones held at the county jail in lieu of $325,000 cash bond only.