To: Metro Atlanta Media

For Immediate Release

Drugs and Guns Seized in Search Warrant

(Paulding County, GA) In the early morning hours of August 2, 2016 Academy Sports in Hiram, GA was burglarized. During the burglary, 13 guns were stolen along with other merchandise. The City of Hiram Police Department immediately launched an investigation and began working the case. Through rigorous Detective work and a significant amount of inter-agency cooperation, most of the guns were recovered on August 9, 2016. Detectives with the Hiram Police Department, Deputies and Detectives with the Paulding County Sheriff’s Office, and Agents with the Haralson-Paulding Drug Task Force were able to work together to recover the majority of the stolen guns from the Academy Sports burglary and seize a large quantity of illegal narcotics in the process.

On August 9, 2016 the Georgia Bureau of Investigation’s Haralson-Paulding Drug Task Force and Detectives with the Criminal Investigations Division executed a search warrant at 488 Roberson Road Rockmart, GA which was the culmination of a two month narcotics investigation into that residence and its occupants. As a result of the investigation and subsequent search warrant, approximately 8 pounds of Crystal Methamphetamine (street value $56,000), 4.5 pounds of Marijuana (street value $18,000), and 36 Firearms were located. Twelve of the firearms that were recovered during the search warrant were stolen from Academy Sports in Hiram, GA.

Listed below are the individuals that were arrested in conjunction with the search warrant on Roberson Road. These individuals were charged with Methamphetamine Trafficking, Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute, and multiple Firearms charges:

- Randall Casey Thomas, Jr. (W/M, 41 YOA)
- Erick Douglas Thomas (W/M, 38 YOA)
- Mariah Lynn Barham (W/F, 24 YOA)
- Emily Catherine Hardin (W/F, 22 YOA)

Randall Casey Thomas Jr. is still being held in the Paulding County Detention Center on a $15,000 bond and he also has a hold through the State of Georgia Parole Board. Erick Thomas is currently being held at the Paulding County Detention Center with no bond. Mariah Barham was booked into the Paulding County Detention Center on August 10, 2016 and was released September 8, 2016 on a $2,950 bond. Emily Hardin was booked into the Paulding County Detention Center on August 10, 2016 and was released September 8, 2016 on a $4,600 bond.

If you have any information about narcotics use, distribution, or trafficking in Paulding County, please call the Haralson-Paulding Drug Task Force at (770) 646-9175.