



Spokane County
— **Sheriff** —
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News Release

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Large Marijuana Grow Seized

Detectives assigned to the sheriff's Investigative Task Force* raided a Spokane home early Thursday and seized 105 marijuana plants and several hundred dollars in cash.

An ITF spokesman said two men at the home have been “hiding behind the medical marijuana law” to grow the drug in Spokane and sell it in the Everett, Washington area.

He said the operation has been underway the past two years, and was only discovered March 1st when the odor of marijuana was detected wafting from the home at 1527 E. Rockwell.

The two suspects, 28-year-old Robert P. Thompson and 31-year-old Eric G. Franklin, had four forged medical marijuana provider forms posted at the grow. The law allows persons with a medical marijuana form to grow no more than 15 plants.

The hydroponic growing operation was found in the basement of the home. Both suspects were booked into the Spokane County Jail on felony counts of Manufacturing a Controlled Substance – Marijuana.

*The **Investigative Task Force** was formerly two investigative units, the **Investigative Support Unit** and the **Property Crimes Task Force**. Reductions in budget led to loss of several investigative and patrol positions, and the two units were combined.

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