



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Complaints lead to arrest of marijuana dealer**

A Columbia man has been charged with the sale and distribution of marijuana after police began investigating a series of community complaints about drug activity at the suspect's home. Mitchell Adam Gampel, 27, of Westleigh Drive, has been charged with drug possession and intent to distribute.

Police began receiving numerous complaints in March from neighbors on Westleigh Drive that Gampel was actively dealing drugs from his home to multiple customers. Detectives launched an investigation, which resulted in a search warrant at Gampel's home on July 18.

In the residence, investigators found multiple pounds of marijuana, scales, packaging materials, hundreds of plastic bags, and more than \$4,000 in cash. Police determined that this evidence was indicative of an individual involved in drug distribution. The street value of the recovered drugs is estimated to be between \$7,500 and \$12,500.

Gampel was charged and has been released from the Howard County Detention Center on \$10,000 bond.

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