

Ohio State Highway Patrol



MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release: August 31, 2017
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Troopers seize 143 pounds of marijuana and 300 grams of hashish in Summit County traffic stop

BOSTON HEIGHTS – A California man is facing felony drug charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized 143 pounds of marijuana and 300 grams of hashish, valued at approximately \$333,905.

On August 30, 2017, troopers stopped a rented 2017 Kia Sportage, with Florida registration for a marked lanes violation on the Ohio Turnpike in Summit County. Criminal indicators were observed and during a consensual frisk, the suspect removed a pill bottle of marijuana from his pocket. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed 18 5-gallon buckets containing the contraband.

The suspect, Leo Charkins, 52, of Sonoma, Calif., was incarcerated in the Summit County Jail and charged with possession and trafficking in marijuana, both second-degree felonies.

If convicted, he could face up to 16 years in prison and up to a \$30,000 fine.

A photo of the seized contraband is available for download on the Patrol's website at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

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