## **NewsRelease**

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office



### Paul Penzone, Sheriff

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#### Three arrested

#### 14,000-fentanyl pills removed from Arizona's streets

Three people are behind bars after Detectives with MCSO Special Investigations Division along with Homeland Security Investigations conducted an operation on a supplier selling about 14,000 fentanyl pills on Wednesday afternoon. The buy took place at the Arizona Mills Mall located in Tempe Arizona. Three suspects, later identified as Roberto Yescas (06/4/79), Ines Acosta (DOB 4/30/85) and Edwin Veliz-Flores DOB 04/08/79) were all taken into custody.

While in the parking lot of the mall, detectives were able to observe an exchange of a large bag between Yescas and Flores. Investigators then moved in to make the arrest and all three suspects attempted to flee the scene. Yescas jumped into a vehicle driven by Acosta and they attempted to flee the area by driving over a curb and accelerating away from the detectives. Other responding units were able to block the escape route taking all three suspects into custody without further incident. No one was injured.

Detectives were able to recover two large packages containing what is believed to be approximately 14,000 fentanyl pills. The estimated street value of the pills is \$154,000.00.

All three subject were booked into 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Jail for 1 Cts. 13-3408A2 narcotic drug-possess for sale F2 and 1 Cts. 13-3408A7 narc drug-transp and/or sell F2.