

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
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NR10-020
March 19, 2010

HIGHWAY POLICE UNCOVER DRUGS

LITTLE ROCK (3-19) Officers from the Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) uncovered a significant shipment of illegal drugs in a commercial motor vehicle along Interstate 40, according to AHP Chief Ron Burks.

On the evening of March 17, 2010, officers discovered several bundles of cocaine while conducting a safety inspection of a tractor-trailer at the Alma Highway Police Station in Crawford County. The drugs were found inside in a hidden compartment of the trailer. The approximate total weight of the bundles was 200 pounds, and its value was estimated at \$4.5 million.

The driver was identified as Francois Robillard, age 57, of Sorel-Tracy, Quebec, Canada. It is believed the truck, transporting a load of vehicles, was traveling from California to Quebec. Robillard was arrested at the scene for Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver and is being held with no bond in the Crawford County Detention Center. He is scheduled for arraignment in circuit court in Alma on March 19, 2010.

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