

Ohio Investigative Unit



MEDIA RELEASE



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Two Columbus businesses charged with illegal gambling

(COLUMBUS) – Agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit have filed criminal and administrative charges against two Columbus liquor permit establishments for illegal gambling.

During an investigation, Agents found Profit Plus, Inc., 414 Frebis Ave., and Tasneem Inc., 1635 Parsons Ave., had operable coin pushers, which offered multiple cash payouts. Each corporation was charged with gambling and operating a gambling house. Agents also issued administrative charges for:

- Gambling device
- Game of chance for profit or scheme of chance
- Operating a gambling house
- Recklessly permitting public gaming
- Acquire, possess, control, or operate a gambling device.

During a search warrant on July 14, agents seized coin pusher machines from both locations, as well as \$193 in cash from Profit Plus, Inc., and \$653 in cash from Tasneem, Inc.

Tasneem Inc. and Profit Plus Inc. are to appear in Franklin County Municipal Court on August 1st, 2017. If convicted, they could face a maximum fine of \$5,000 for each count. The administrative case will be presented to the Ohio Liquor Control Commission at a later date. Possible administrative penalties include fines, suspensions or revocation of the liquor permit.

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The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU.