



NEWS RELEASE

Chicago Police Department

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Multiple Agencies join forces to take down Buy-Low Liquors

In early January 2016, officers from the New Lenox Police Department requested assistance from the Chicago Police Department Asset Forfeiture Unit in conducting an investigation of Buy-Low Liquors located at 4301 W. North Ave in Chicago. Investigators developed information that the store was conducting an illegal fencing operation. The store was receiving stolen merchandise from suburban retailers and re-selling it. With the assistance of the New Lenox PD and the Organized Retail Crime Unit of Mariano's Grocery Store and Jewel foods, multiple undercover sales of stolen merchandise were conducted. On March 01, 2016, with additional assistance from the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and the Des Plaines and Northbrook Illinois Police Departments, thirteen Search warrants were executed. The search warrants included the target location, residences and banks associated with the business. Three offenders were arrested and charged with Theft, Continuing Criminal Enterprise, Money Laundering and various licensing violations. In addition to the proceeds and assets of the business, the seizure resulted in over \$100,000 of USC, the recovery of more than 100 bottles of high-end alcohol, and the recovery of one illegally possessed handgun.

The Chicago Department of Buildings conducted an inspection of the target location resulting in a Commissioner Closing for dangerous building code violations.