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**NEWS RELEASE**



**Date:** 06/12/09

**Released By:** Colonel Steve Burns

**NR #:** 09-125

**NARCOTICS ARREST**

Culminating an investigation based on information received from the Florida Highway Patrol, Sarasota Sheriff's Office narcotics detectives conducted a search warrant today on a residence at 3023 San Mateo Drive in North Port. Detectives seized 142 hydroponic marijuana plants and equipment from the sophisticated "grow house" operation. The owner of the house was arrested and charged with; possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, possession of paraphernalia, cultivation of cannabis, and possession of a residence for the sole purpose of manufacturing a controlled substance. The unit includes two detectives from the North Port Police Department.

Arrested: Frederick Schaller W/M 05/13/1959

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Criminal Investigations at 941-861-1719 or leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers by calling 941-366-TIPS (8477), or online at [www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com](http://www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com) or via text message by texting TIP109 plus a message to CRIMES (274637).