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## BROOME COUNTY SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT TASK FORCE PRESS RELEASE

Untaxed Cigarettes and Cannabis Products Recovered in the Town of Union

(TOWN OF UNION) Two Endicott men have been charged with Tax Fraud after a search warrant uncovered untaxed cigarettes and unauthorized cannabis products in the Town of Union.

On October 13, 2023, the Broome County Special Investigations Unit Task Force, following an investigation into the sale of untaxed tobacco cigarettes, executed a search warrant at an establishment known as Smoker's Choice at 2906 East Main Street in the Town of Union. During the search, the following items of evidence were recovered:

- Approximately 73 cartons of untaxed tobacco cigarettes
- Several pounds of various packaged items containing cannabis candies and gummies
- \$1,560.00 in US Currency

As a result of the search warrant, the following individuals were issued appearance tickets, returnable to the Town of Union Court for the following charges:

Hosam A. Alghem, age 26 of Endicott and Connor J. Huttleson, age 23 of Endicott, were each charged with one count of Criminal Tax Fraud in the 5<sup>th</sup> Degree, an unclassified Misdemeanor.

The case has been referred to the Office of Cannabis Management regarding the unauthorized sale of cannabis products in the state of New York.

The Broome County Special Investigations Unit Task Force was assisted by member of the Broome County Sheriff's Office Road Patrol.

The Broome County Special Investigations Unit Task Force is comprised of members of the Broome County Sheriff's Office, the City of Binghamton Police Department, and the Village of Johnson City Police Department.

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