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Police nab four day laborers in sting

BY DAN EAKIN, Staff Writer

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Four men identified as day laborers by police were picked up in a sting operation Friday, according to Lewisville Police Chief Russ Kerbow.

Members of the Special Operations Section and patrol officers conducted the operation on the day laborers who solicit work from the roadway, Kerbow said.

As a result of the sting, which was conducted on Huffines Street between Huffines Plaza and the Huffines Chrysler Jeep Dodge dealership, Kerbow said Detective Jeff Carey picked up four laborers who had allegedly solicited work from the roadway.

"One of the four was released with a citation," Kerbow said, because he had produced proper identification. The other three, all of whom claimed Mexico as their country of origin, were taken into custody and turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to determine their status.

Day laborers may legally solicit work from privately-owned locations such as the Huffines Plaza parking lot, with permission of the owner, providing they do not get into a public roadway or right-of-way, explained James Kunke, city communications manager.

Last year, the Lewisville City Council considered building a shelter for day laborers to convene, but abandoned the idea after complaints that such a shelter could promote illegal activity in the area.

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