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**Pickup Arrest and Drug Marketing Pyramid**

In arrests without warrants for use or selling or possession of either or both narcotics and dangerous drugs, it is crucial for investigators to work within the legal image of a “reasonable person”. The court bases their judgment for determining if a crime has been committed on three things. The facts for the basis of the arrest made by an officer. Second, the police’s training and their expertise. Lastly, the actions of the person that lead to the arrest. These three factors also determine the reasonability of the arrest. A good example of this would be the case of ‘Draper vs Unites States’.

So, the current drug marketing pyramid consists of 6 levels. Each level has a different entity attached to it with different functions. The top level consists of the Major Dealer, Importer or Manufacturer. The second level includes Wholesalers, who deal in selling of multikilos of drugs. Then come the Sub wholesalers, dealing in kilos of drugs. Afterwards, Local Supplier come into the mix who deal in small amounts. The second last level include Street Dealers and the last include Lookouts or Runners.

Understanding the organizational hierarchy and setup of criminal organizations is essential for drug crimes investigators. Other than the addition of lookouts and runners in the lower levels, over the years the traditional system has mainly remained the same. In the past, the sale and marketing pyramids were under the Italian crime families, while the Europeans handled the importation. Whereas, now routes from Central America, South America and Mexico have originated because of expansion of criminal organizations. The most popular narcotics imported cocaine and crack, which are readily available and sold at high profits in the United States. Overall, to avoid police interference with their daily activities, the pyramid networks have been advanced over the years.

Works Cited: