

EXCLUSIVE: Accused Vape Cartridge Kingpins Released On Bail, Even As Mayor Barrett Says Their Arrest Makes City Safer  
By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

At the same time Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Police officials were holding a news conference saying the arrest of two southside vape cartridge distributors made the city safer, the two accused drug kingpins were being released from jail.

Even though the home occupied by Govanny Molina and Amanda Ware on Norwich Street contained \$935,000 in cash, Milwaukee County Court Commissioner Barry Phillips set cash bond at only \$25,000 for each of them. Molina and Ware both posted bail this morning and were released.

At the news conference Barrett said the key to the arrests was neighbors reporting suspicious activity at the Molina-Ware residence. But now Molina and Ware are back on the streets. It is certainly possible that the neighbors are at risk. Some even identified themselves in a TV report.

I have attempted to reach Milwaukee Police District Six Captain Kristin Riestra, who appeared at the news conference to praise the cooperating citizens, to see if Police patrols in the neighborhood will be increased now that the two accused drug dealers are free. She has not returned calls.

When Ware made her initial court appearance, Commissioner Phillips declared her "indigent" and eligible for taxpayer-paid counsel. But "indigent" Ware was able to lay her hands on 25 grand only five days later.

In addition to the cash, thousands of vape cartridges loaded with THC (the active ingredient in marijuana) were found in the house, along with some weapons.

The terms of the bail release indicate Ware and Molina are not allowed to have contact with one another.

The total of the combined bond for Ware and Molina was approximately six percent of the cash found in their house. While the cash was confiscated, it's certainly possible they have money elsewhere. In any event, they were able to find \$50,000 within five days of their arrest.

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