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Investigation on botched raid completed - Three drug unit officers reassigned

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WAUKESHA — Saying the detail needed in the world of high profile felony drug cases wasn't there Feb. 14, Waukesha County Sheriff Bill Kruziki announced his investigation into a botched drug raid is completed.

"It boiled down to the fact that nobody did anything intentionally reckless," Kruziki said this morning. "It was a matter of somebody cutting corners. It was a matter of training and supervision." The board that oversees the Waukesha County Metro Drug Unit met Wednesday and heard the results of an internal investigation conducted by the sheriff's department in the wake of the Valentine's Day incident in Muskego. Officers from the drug unit conducted a drug search warrant at a Muskego home, but after handcuffing a woman while she was face-down in her snowy, wet driveway, they discovered they had hit the wrong house. "When you're doing these kind of high-profile felony cases, you have to make sure your T's are crossed and your I's are dotted," Kruziki said. "The detail wasn't there for this." The unit's two supervisors, Lt. Charles Wood and Capt. Terry Martorano, were reassigned to other duties within the department, and Muskego police Officer Eric Nowicki was transferred out of the unit. Replacing the supervisors are Capt. Eric Severson and Lt. Dave LaFond. "I felt we needed to have a clean slate with some different direction," Kruziki said. There was no disciplinary action taken against any of the officers involved, he said. The residents of the Muskego home where the botched raid occurred were unavailable for comment at press time. (Anne E. Schwartz can be reached at aschwartz@conleynet.com)