

MARSHALS ARREST TOP GREENE CORP EXECS

Warrants issued as allegations of human trafficking come to light

By JOHN POOLE



Photo By: Josh Lopez

LEAFSPOT, VERBENA - Federal Marshals led two Greene Corp executives out of their 5th Ave. office building in handcuffs this morning in connection with what appears to be a massive human trafficking ring involving no fewer than three separate corporations.

In the face of overwhelming evidence of wrongdoing, an Everton judge has granted a request that Greene Headquarters be closed and employees detained while Marshals execute search warrants on the premises. Official vehicles crowd the streets, laden with cortex terminals, stacks of files, and sometimes whole filing cabinets, all awaiting transport to Everton for processing.

The judge also granted a request by the Marshals that anyone detained be kept under preventive detention. Marshals can ask to hold people connected to investigations the investigators believe there is a risk of evidence tampering or if anyone is a possible flight risk. The duration of the preventive detention varies according to the alleged crime. How long Greene Corp employees can expect to be held is currently unclear.

Federal Marshals allege that the company had financed an operation to hunt and capture Greene Corp employees they

believed to be connected to the company's ongoing labor dispute, then provide them as slave labor for terraforming projects within the Kalidasa system. Ardonia Terraforming, the company believed to be receiving the illicit shipments of slaves, faces similar charges if investigators conclude the company knowingly received such people to add to its workforce. Neither Ardonia nor the Beaumonde Federal Marshals' Office were available to comment on any ongoing investigations.

Greene Corp has long been under scrutiny for suspected human rights violations concerning the treatment of their labor force, all of whom are required to sign long-term contracts and receive payment in the form of company currency. While the company claims these policies are to ensure the workers, many of whom live in poverty, spend their wages on essentials, critics claim it's just another way for the company to control its workforce.

Kevin Greene, CEO of Greene Corp, could not be reached for comment. A representative from the corporation's legal division said "We're all just stunned over here. I've only had the official papers for about an hour, but from what I've seen, these allegations are just incredible and certainly the work of an overzealous investigator."