



Sheriff Jimmy Thornton
Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office
112 Fontana Street
Clinton, NC 28328
(910) 592-4141

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 22, 2009

TOPIC: Armed Robbery Call Turns into Drug Bust

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – On Wednesday, October 21, 2009, around 10:10 PM, the Sampson County E-911 Center received a report of an “armed robbery” at 4444 N. Spring Branch Road, Dunn, NC. Upon arriving on the scene, deputies were met by the residents, Kable Leo Partida and Laura Ann Hunt. The residents advised that they had just returned to their home, when two black males in a small red car pulled into their yard. The two black males jumped out of the vehicle, armed with pistols and demanded money. The residents advised the black males that they didn't have any money, so the black males left the area, without harming the suspects.

While the deputies were interviewing Ms. Hunt they smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the residence. When they asked Ms. Hunt about the smell of marijuana, she advised them that she was scared after the black males left, so she smoked a “joint”. The deputies discovered a plastic bag containing a substance believed to be marijuana inside the residence. Another bag containing a substance believed to be marijuana was discovered inside Ms. Hunt's purse in addition to \$1,646.00 in cash. In all 65 grams of marijuana were seized and Ms. Hunt claimed sole possession of the marijuana.

While attempting to finish the investigation of the armed robbery, Mr. Partida advised officers that he didn't wish to file a report, because he knew the two black males.

Laura Ann Hunt, age 27, of 4444 N. Spring Branch Road, Dunn, NC, was taken into custody and charged with Felony Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Ms. Hunt was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$7,000.00 bond.



Laura Ann Hunt



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 19, 2009

TOPIC: Concealed License Plate Leads to Drug Arrest in Garland

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – On Sunday, October 18, 2009, around 12:26 AM, deputies with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office Criminal Interdiction Team stopped a white Oldsmobile which had a concealed license plate. During the traffic stop a deputy observed a small bag of marijuana on the floorboard between the driver's feet and another baggie with a white substance on the vehicle's console. When the deputy went to seize the drugs, he discovered a pistol between the console and the driver's seat. The driver, Raeford Lawan Fennell, age 34, of 2945 Delway Highway, Rose Hill, NC, was immediately taken into custody.

Mr. Fennell was charged with the following: Possession of Cocaine; Possession of Marijuana; Carrying a Concealed Weapon; Driving While License Revoked; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; and Concealing a Registration Plate. Mr. Fennell was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$10,000.00 bond. Approximately 2.7 grams of marijuana and .07 grams of cocaine were seized.



Raeford Lawan Fennell



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 27, 2009

TOPIC: Drugs and Gun Seized in Parking Lot at Midway High School Game

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – On Friday, October 23rd, sheriff's deputies working security at the Midway High School football observed four males sitting in a pick-up truck in the parking lot during the game. The deputies approached the individuals and started talking with them and the subjects advised that they were waiting for Tyrone Joyner. During their conversation with the individuals, the deputies discovered that they had marijuana. About the time the deputies discovered the marijuana, Tyrone Joyner who had been walking toward the deputies and the truck, turned and tried to elude the deputy who was approaching him.

The deputy located Joyner behind a white sport utility vehicle and confronted him. Joyner immediately advised the deputy that he had pills in his pocket. A search of Joyner revealed 10 Darvocet pills, 8 Vicoden pills, and 6 Xanax pills. A pistol was located near Joyner and he immediately admitted the firearm was his as well.

Tyrone Joyner, age 16, of 1229 Charles Newland Road, Dunn, NC, was taken into custody and charged with the following: Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Schedule III Controlled Substance; Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Schedule IV Controlled Substance; Trafficking Opium/Heroin; Possession of a Firearm on Educational Property; Carrying a Concealed Weapon; Possession of a Handgun by a Minor; and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Mr. Joyner was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$15,000.00 bond.

The following individuals were charged and released for "Simple Possession of Marijuana" and "Possession of Drug Paraphernalia":

- Christopher Dean Parrish, age 20, of 190 Bradley Lewis Lane, Godwin, NC
- Anthony Loving, age 23, of 190 Bradley Lewis Lane, Godwin, NC
- Robert Allen Williams, age 18, of 210 Covenant Road, Godwin, NC
- Joseph Larry Edwards, III, age 21, of 551 Green Path Road, Godwin, NC



Tyrone Joyner



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 19, 2009

TOPIC: DWI Traffic Stop in Garland Net Drug Arrests

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – On Sunday, October 18, 2009, around 12:05 AM, deputies with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office Criminal Interdiction Team stopped a burgundy Ford Ranger for suspicion of Driving While Impaired. The driver of the vehicle, Charles Junior Smith, age 27, of 4200 Bull Street, Garland, NC, was taken into custody for Driving While Impaired and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol. While deputies were frisking Mr. Smith they discovered a small bag of marijuana in his pants pocket.

When the deputies went to talk with the passenger of the vehicle, Jamal Thomas Smith, age 18, of 4206 Bull Street, Garland, NC, they observed he was attempting to conceal drugs in his mouth. A search of Jamal Smith revealed "crack-cocaine" and marijuana.

Charles and Jamal Smith were transported to the Sampson County Detention Center for charging and processing. As the Detention Center, officers discovered powder cocaine underneath Jamal Smith's clothing, for which he was charged as well.

Charles Smith was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$1,500.00 bond for the following: Driving While Impaired; Possession of Marijuana; and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol. 1 gram of marijuana was seized from Charles Smith.

Jamal Smith was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$15,000.00 bond for the following: Possession of Cocaine; Possession of Marijuana; and Possession of a Controlled Substance in a Jail. In all 1.5 grams of crack cocaine, 2.0 grams of powder cocaine, and 3.5 grams of marijuana were seized from Jamal Smith.



Charles Junior Smith



Jamal Thomas Smith



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 19, 2009

TOPIC: Sheriff Thornton Offers Halloween Safety Tips

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC - Soon our streets will be scattered with little ghosts, goblins and witches trick-or-treating this Halloween. "Halloween should be filled with surprise and enjoyment, and following some common sense practices can keep events safer and more fun," said Sampson County Sheriff Jimmy Thornton.

Sheriff Thornton reminds all Sampson County residents to follow these safety tips:

Motorists:

- Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.
- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

Parents:

- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.
- Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.
- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **never** to enter a stranger's home.
- Establish a return time.
- Tell your youngsters not to eat any treat until they return home.
- Review all appropriate trick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.
- Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group.

Costume Design:

- Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.
- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.
- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard.
- If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retro-reflective tape should be used to make children visible.

Face Design:

- Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.
- When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," "Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.
- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.

Accessories:

- Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.
- Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.

While Trick-or-Treating:

- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.
- Walk; do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

Treats:

- Give children an early meal before going out.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.
- When in doubt, throw it out.

Homeowners/Decorations:

- Keep candles and Jack O' Lanterns away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.
- Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.
- Keep candles and Jack O' Lanterns away from curtains, decorations and other combustibles that could catch fire.
- Do not leave your house unattended.

"Halloween is a fun time in Sampson County," Sheriff Thornton concluded, "But let's make it a safe time as well. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian/car crashes. "



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 16, 2009

TOPIC: Two Pounds of Marijuana Seized in Traffic Stop

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Autryville, NC – Deputies with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office Criminal Interdiction Team seized approximately two pounds of marijuana during a traffic stop just outside of Autryville, NC, on Thursday, October 15, 2009, shortly after 4:30 PM. A gold Chevrolet Malibu was stopped on NC 24, just outside of Autryville for a traffic violation. During the stop, the deputies could smell the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A plastic bag containing approximately two pounds of marijuana was located and seized.

The driver of the vehicle, Paul Charles Payne, III, age 26, of 136 Bladen Circle, Fayetteville, NC, was taken into custody. Mr. Payne was charged with: Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Marijuana; Maintaining a Vehicle for the Storage of a Controlled Substance; and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Mr. Payne was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$7,500.00 bond.



Paul C. Payne, III



Photo of seized marijuana.



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 21, 2009

TOPIC: Undercover Operation Nets Arrest of Junkyard Lane Man

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – Around 1:45 PM, on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, investigators with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Division arrested Justin Ryan Jackson, age 16, of 49 Junkyard Lane, Clinton, NC. The arrest was the culmination of an undercover operation that was initiated due to tips from concerned citizens.

Jackson was charged with the following: 3 counts of Selling Marijuana; 3 counts of Delivering Marijuana; and 3 counts of Maintaining a Dwelling for the Storage of a Controlled Substance. Jackson was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$25,000.00 bond.



Justin Ryan Jackson



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: October 20, 2009

TOPIC: Undercover Operation Nets Arrest of Salemburg Man

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – Around 10:00 PM, on Monday, October 19, 2009, investigators with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Division arrested David Fitzgerald Williams, age 28, of 80 Laurel Wood Lane, Salemburg, NC. The arrest was the culmination of an undercover operation that was initiated due to tips from concerned citizens.

Williams was charged with the following: 3 counts of Selling Cocaine; 3 counts of Delivering Cocaine; 3 counts of Maintaining a Vehicle for the Storage of a Controlled Substance; 3 counts of Manufacturing Cocaine; and 2 counts of Conspiracy to Sell/Deliver Cocaine. Williams was placed in the Sampson County Detention Center under a \$50,000.00 bond.

Williams has previously been convicted of 16 misdemeanor counts of Employment Security Violations and 1 felony count of Possession of Stolen Property, according to the N.C. Department of Corrections Website.



David Fitzgerald Williams