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NEWS RELEASE

November 4, 2014

Sheriff's Drug Squad Arrests Heroin Dealer

Detectives with the Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at 6821 Creft Circle, Lake Park, NC late Friday afternoon, the culmination of an investigation into the illegal sale and possession of heroin from this residence. The resident, 22 year old Christopher Douglas Ferrell, was arrested and charged this evening, and a search of the residence yielded a quantity of heroin, digital scales, hypodermic needles, and other drug paraphernalia. Additional heroin and digital scales were found on his person when he was arrested. Lake Park contract deputy Richard Haywood assisted with the search and arrest, and was instrumental in obtaining the assistance of the local residents.

Sheriff Cathey praised the work of his Drug Squad and also the Lake Park contract deputies for the thorough and professional investigation. Deputies from the Indian Trail Bureau also assisted with the arrest, and in keeping the scene secure as children began trick or treating in Lake Park. The Mayor was advised of the incident as it was taking place, and social media was utilized to make residents aware of the drug search, and to stay clear of the residence. Patrol cars with blue lights flashing marked the residence as the search was conducted.

In addition to the charges made Friday, Christopher Ferrell was linked to two separate overdose incidents that detectives allege stemmed from his having recently sold heroin to both a 19 year old and a 20 year old. In the first incident, the purchaser/user was arrested for driving while impaired and hit and run in the 3900 block of Sages Avenue in Lake Park on October 20, 2014. In the second incident, the purchaser/user was founded partially incoherent outside his vehicle on October 29, 2014, also in Lake Park. Ferrell has been charged with Felony Sale and Delivery of Heroin in both of these incidents as well. All of the illegal sales of heroin alleged by Detectives took place at Ferrell's residence, which is across the street from "Dee Dee's After School Care". Detectives charged these crimes under a North Carolina General Statute that specifically addresses such a situation:

Any person 21 years of age or older who commits an offense under G.S. 90-95(a)(1) on property used for a child care center, or for an elementary or secondary school or within 1,000 feet of the boundary of real property used for a child care center, or for an elementary or secondary school shall be punished as a Class E felon.



Christopher Douglas Ferrell
6821 Creft Circle Lake Park, NC

Charges:

Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver Heroin (4 counts), Sale and Delivery of Heroin (3 counts), Sell Heroin within 1000 ft. of School/Daycare (3 counts), Felony Possession of Heroin, Felony Maintain a Dwelling to Sell/Store Controlled Substances, Felony Maintain a Vehicle to Sell/Store Controlled Substances, Possession with Intent to Sell or Deliver Heroin within 1000 ft. of a School/Daycare, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Ferrell has a first appearance court date of December 9, 2014, and a \$ 75,000 secured bond.

Point of contact for this press release is Lieutenant David Linto, 704-283-3722.

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Citizens with information concerning criminal activity are encouraged to call:

Union County Sheriff's Office at 704-283-3789

Or

Union County Crimestoppers at 704-283-5600

