



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Report on DWI Vehicle Forfeiture
SL 1998-182, sec.38
Senate Bill 1336

Date Due December 1, 2002

Report # 14 in 2002 DPI Chronological Schedule

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DWI Vehicle Seizures November 1, 2001 – October 31, 2002

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has administered a statewide contract for the towing, storage, and sale of vehicles seized under North Carolina's DWI seizure law since June 1, 1999. This effectively removed local school systems from the administration of the DWI vehicle seizure laws. Tarheel Specialties Inc. of Linden, NC is the current statewide contractor for towing, storage, and sale of DWI seized vehicles.

The following data were compiled for the period November 1, 2001 through October 31, 2002, from reports prepared by the Division of Motor Vehicles and Tarheel Specialties.

- A total of 5,421 vehicles were impounded, averaging over 100 vehicles per week.
- A total of 1,332 vehicles were released to innocent owners or lienholders upon payment of towing and storage fees. (\$13,320 going to the General Fund of North Carolina)
- 3,566 vehicles have been sold at public auction for a total of \$2,362,724 or an average of \$662 per vehicle. Tarheel Specialties received \$237,506 for paying out initial towing and storage fees to local towing companies. Tarheel Specialties received \$376,410 for towing and selling fees, and \$1,626,859 for storage fees. (\$35,660 going to the General Fund of North Carolina)
- 85% of DWI seized vehicles are auctioned under the expedited sales provision of the DWI seizure law.
- Local school systems have received \$102,899 for vehicles forfeited to local School Boards. Tarheel Specialties also sent \$63,635 to the Clerk of Court for vehicles not yet forfeited. For vehicles auctioned by Tarheel Specialties under the expedited sales provisions that are eventually forfeited, local schools systems **may** receive up to an additional \$392,988.
- Tarheel Specialties has 2,671 vehicles that remain impounded.
- During the reporting period, 462 vehicles were reported forfeited by the Courts. The average time it takes for a vehicle to go through the court process and be forfeited is 245 days.
- Eleven forfeited vehicles have been retained by School Boards for their own use.

The attached document indicates breakdown by county of the numbers stated above.



Picture at left shows storage facility at Tarheel Specialties in Linden, NC.

For additional information, contact DPI
Transportation Services, (919) 807-3570.

- Derek Graham, Section Chief
- Jeff Moore, Vehicle Administrator

County	Number of DWI seized vehicles Nov.1, 2001 thru Oct.31,2002	Number of vehicles released to innocent owners and lienholders	Number of vehicles sold at auction	Proceeds sent to Clerk of Court pending forfeiture hearing	Proceeds sent to LEA from Nov. 1, 2001 thru Oct. 31, 2002	Proceeds due to LEA (if forfeited)from Nov. 1, 2001 thru Oct. 31, 2002
ALAMANCE	106	30	74	\$ 3,769	\$ -	\$ 14,169
ALEXANDER	24	6	18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 510
ALLEGHANY	6	0	6	\$ -	\$ 3,475	\$ 3,475
ANSON	10	3	1	\$ -	\$ 140	\$ -
ASHE	17	4	13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15
AVERY	15	2	6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,245
BEAUFORT	63	13	31	\$ -	\$ 535	\$ 1,435
BERTIE	4	2	4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BLADEN	26	9	10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 205
BRUNSWICK	60	8	50	\$ 2,825	\$ -	\$ 9,371
BUNCOMBE	87	10	55	\$ 3,330	\$ -	\$ 7,685
BURKE	91	10	51	\$ 5,585	\$ 905	\$ 8,440
CABARRUS	152	53	138	\$ 2,305	\$ 5,739	\$ 23,202
CALDWELL	108	15	79	\$ 6,295	\$ 1,635	\$ 11,955
CAMDEN	4	1	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CARTERET	81	22	51	\$ 1,170	\$ -	\$ 6,835
CASWELL	25	6	16	\$ 305	\$ -	\$ 2,015
CATAWBA	89	16	55	\$ 3,125	\$ 5,635	\$ 15,230
CHATHAM	54	13	23	\$ -	\$ 715	\$ 1,115
CHEROKEE	7	1	12	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45
CHOWAN	3	0	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CLAY	2	1	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CLEVELAND	42	14	36	\$ -	\$ 20,055	\$ 1,150
COLUMBUS	17	3	14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 385
CRAVEN	46	13	32	\$ 2,615	\$ 2,165	\$ 6,325
CUMBERLAND	78	24	52	\$ 40	\$ -	\$ 2,455
CURRITUCK	8	2	5	\$ -	\$ -	
DARE	50	18	22	\$ -	\$ 2,295	\$ 4,705
DAVIDSON	111	11	71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,400
DAVIE	36	9	24	\$ 140	\$ 2,140	\$ 3,695
DUPLIN	54	12	29	\$ 170	\$ 1,705	\$ 3,070
DURHAM	46	14	31	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,020
EDGECOMBE	37	10	16	\$ 1,510	\$ -	\$ 3,025
FORSYTH	193	57	149	\$ 1,045	\$ -	\$ 13,225
FRANKLIN	36	2	33	\$ -	\$ 3,185	\$ 4,495
GASTON	197	43	123	\$ 2,875	\$ -	\$ 18,042
GATES	11	1	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GRAHAM	0	0	3	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GRANVILLE	22	6	11	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GREENE	11	1	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GUILFORD	288	69	209	\$ 1,475	\$ 2,265	\$ 18,808
HALIFAX	39	11	27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,105
HARNETT	65	23	48	\$ 735	\$ 1,650	\$ 6,593
HAYWOOD	31	4	25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,680
HENDERSON	80	9	46	\$ 670	\$ -	\$ 5,425
HERTFORD	16	7	11	\$ 820	\$ -	\$ 1,655
HOKE	39	10	34	\$ -	\$ 465	\$ 1,995
HYDE	8	5	6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IREDELL	101	24	90	\$ 2,155	\$ 5,725	\$ 13,515
JACKSON	16	1	8	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125
JOHNSTON	92	23	57	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ 4,665
JONES	3	0	3	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
LEE	96	32	58	\$ 900	\$ -	\$ 6,855
LENOIR	36	8	31	\$ -	\$ 1,120	\$ 6,665
LINCOLN	18	3	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450
MACON	30	3	24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 945
MADISON	16	1	19	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MARTIN	14	8	16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 625

County	Number of D/W seized vehicles Nov.1, 2001 thru Oct.31,2002	Number of vehicles released to innocent owners and lienholders	Number of vehicles sold at auction	Proceeds sent to Clerk of Court pending forfeiture hearing	Proceeds sent to LEA from Nov. 1, 2001 thru Oct. 31, 2002	Proceeds due to LEA (if forfeited)from Nov. 1, 2001 thru Oct. 31, 2002
McDOWELL	25	3	30	\$ 585	\$ -	\$ 2,040
MECKLENBURG	153	38	45	\$ -	\$ 2,495	\$ 3,420
MITCHELL	15	2	12	\$ 860	\$ -	\$ 1,955
MONTGOMERY	46	13	22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 485
MOORE	61	17	49	\$ 425	\$ 3,380	\$ 9,780
NASH	94	29	69	\$ 1,310	\$ -	\$ 3,395
NEW HANOVER	137	49	72	\$ 1,765	\$ 2,220	\$ 14,880
NORTHAMPTON	7	2	8	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 2,885
ONslow	95	57	45	\$ 606	\$ 7,840	\$ 10,596
ORANGE	40	10	29	\$ 650	\$ -	\$ 1,405
PAMLICO	14	0	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PASQUOTANK	18	1	18	\$ 85	\$ 390	\$ 2,295
PENDER	24	4	17	\$ -	\$ 2,620	\$ 4,855
PERQUIMANS	3	2	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PERSON	56	7	28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,165
PITT	70	16	33	\$ 335	\$ -	\$ 2,045
POLK	13	3	7	\$ 345	\$ -	\$ 1,055
RANDOLPH	110	25	67	\$ 655	\$ 930	\$ 5,045
RICHMOND	48	15	39	\$ 285	\$ 2,110	\$ 3,725
ROBESON	82	14	37	\$ 185	\$ -	\$ 1,170
ROCKINGHAM	117	25	100	\$ 2,055	\$ -	\$ 8,375
ROWAN	69	20	59	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,495
RUTHERFORD	55	7	42	\$ 460	\$ -	\$ 4,370
SAMPSON	54	14	39	\$ 4,450	\$ 5,525	\$ 12,550
SCOTLAND	47	11	31	\$ -	\$ 1,160	\$ 155
STANLY	46	11	13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 605
STOKES	29	3	31	\$ -	\$ 4,385	\$ 4,795
SURRY	84	15	59	\$ 400	\$ 920	\$ 4,700
SWAIN	6	0	7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TRANSYLVANIA	25	4	11	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 835
TYRRELL	6	1	3	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
UNION	73	17	26	\$ -	\$ 95	\$ 2,020
VANCE	67	19	46	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 435
WAKE	247	86	130	\$ 555	\$ 125	\$ 12,635
WARREN	10	3	6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 520
WASHINGTON	7	0	4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
WATAUGA	39	7	23	\$ -	\$ 2,705	\$ 2,705
WAYNE	105	28	66	\$ 475	\$ -	\$ 2,040
WILKES	71	9	49	\$ 1,830	\$ 2,235	\$ 8,445
WILSON	89	32	71	\$ 660	\$ -	\$ 3,730
YADKIN	27	6	25	\$ -	\$ 2,215	\$ 3,537
YANCEY	20	1	17		\$ -	\$ 800
Totals	5421	1332	3566	\$ 63,635	\$ 102,899	\$ 392,988