



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

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Senate Bill 1336

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DWI Vehicle Seizures October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2006

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 October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, from reports prepared by the Division of Motor Vehicles and Tarheel Specialties.

- A total of 4,089 vehicles were impounded, averaging over 79 vehicles per week.
- A total of 762 vehicles were released to innocent owners or lienholders upon payment of towing and storage fees. (\$7,620 going to the General Fund of North Carolina)
- Tarheel Specialties splits the storage cost of released vehicles (90%/10%) with LEAs, resulting in \$46,149 revenue for the LEAs statewide.
- 2,429 vehicles were sold at public auction for a total of \$2,376,350 or an average of \$978 per vehicle. Tarheel Specialties paid out \$295,625 to local tow companies to take possession of seized vehicles. The contractor is allowed to charge \$10 per day for storage, as long as the total cost does not result in any loss to the state or local school district. Administrative fees totaling \$24,290 were sent to the General Fund of North Carolina.
- Most DWI seized vehicles are auctioned under the expedited sales provision of the DWI seizure law.
- Local school systems received \$417,290 from the contractor for storage fees and proceeds from the sale of vehicles forfeited to local School Boards. Tarheel Specialties also sent \$204,488 to the Clerks of Court for vehicles not yet forfeited.
- Tarheel Specialties has approximately 1,500 vehicles that remain impounded.
- During the reporting period 86 vehicles were reported forfeited by the Courts.
- Seven forfeited vehicles have been retained by Local 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
- Stephen Beachum, Consultant

DIVISION OF SCHOOL SUPPORT

Benjamin J. Matthews, Ph.D., Director | bmatthew@dpi.state.nc.us

6319 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6319 | (919) 807-3500 | Fax (919) 807-3502

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

COUNTY	Number of DWI seized vehicles Oct 1, 2005 - Sept. 30, 2006	Numer of vehicles released to innocent owners and lienholders	LEA Proceeds - Storage	LEA Proceeds - Forfeited Vehicles	Proceeds deposited with Clerk of Court - due to LEA if vehicle forfeited
ALAMANCE	75	10	\$ 6,773	\$ -	\$ 5,150
ALEXANDER	21	1	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -
ALLEGHANY	6	0	\$ 668	\$ -	\$ 4,090
ANSON	9	1	\$ 192	\$ -	\$ 50
ASHE	19	1	\$ 984	\$ -	\$ 1,005
AVERY	6	0	\$ 620	\$ -	\$ 180
BEAUFORT	67	9	\$ 1,427	\$ -	\$ 250
BERTIE	10	1	\$ 103	\$ -	\$ -
BLADEN	22	3	\$ 920	\$ -	\$ 100
BRUNSWICK	46	13	\$ 3,809	\$ -	\$ 615
BUNCOMBE	95	12	\$ 3,781	\$ -	\$ 4,210
BURKE	76	3	\$ 2,096	\$ -	\$ 2,080
CABARRUS	173	29	\$ 21,104	\$ 6,362.00	\$ 6,900
CALDWELL	70	6	\$ 6,404	\$ -	\$ 6,220
CAMDEN	5	0	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ 115
CARTERET	84	27	\$ 7,185	\$ 9,828.00	\$ 8,285
CASWELL	12	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CATAWBA	97	12	\$ 12,513	\$ -	\$ 9,305
CHATHAM	14	2	\$ 569	\$ -	\$ 755
CHEROKEE	12	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CHOWAN	1	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CLAY	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CLEVELAND	0	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COLUMBUS	12	2	\$ 1,020	\$ -	\$ -
CRAVEN	39	9	\$ 3,850	\$ -	\$ 1,070
CUMBERLAND	34	13	\$ 2,697	\$ -	\$ 510
CURRITUCK	13	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DARE	57	5	\$ 7,018	\$ -	\$ 4,295
DAVIDSON	59	4	\$ 2,448	\$ -	\$ 2,020
DAVIE	24	4	\$ 904	\$ 2,442.00	\$ 1,265
DUPLIN	29	8	\$ 1,751	\$ 1,596.00	\$ 985
DURHAM	34	1	\$ 3,618	\$ -	\$ 3,585
EDGECOMBE	34	4	\$ 1,345	\$ -	\$ 170
FORSYTH	139	26	\$ 23,633	\$ -	\$ 23,880
FRANKLIN	38	9	\$ 2,770	\$ -	\$ 1,345
GASTON	142	28	\$ 10,920	\$ -	\$ 7,713
GATES	8	1	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 430
GRAHAM	2	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GRANVILLE	4	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GREENE	11	2	\$ 1,334	\$ -	\$ 215
GUILFORD	167	31	\$ 14,327	\$ 23,495.00	\$ 12,959
HALIFAX	41	4	\$ 1,460	\$ -	\$ 1,010
HARNETT	44	12	\$ 2,872	\$ -	\$ 1,645
HAYWOOD	20	5	\$ 361	\$ -	\$ -
HENDERSON	50	7	\$ 8,144	\$ -	\$ 1,710
HERTFORD	11	3	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
HOKE	56	5	\$ 3,810	\$ -	\$ 1,340
HYDE	2	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IREDELL	93	11	\$ 11,170	\$ 2,414.00	\$ 15,215
JACKSON	3	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
JOHNSTON	74	21	\$ 2,583	\$ -	\$ 1,225
JONES	3	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
LEE	41	4	\$ 4,262	\$ -	\$ 2,565
LENOIR	43	8	\$ 1,391	\$ 4,424.00	\$ 630
LINCOLN	23	2	\$ 676	\$ 2,327.00	\$ -
MACON	25	1	\$ 2,369	\$ -	\$ 230

COUNTY	Number of DWI seized vehicles Oct 1, 2005 - Sept. 30, 2006	Numer of vehicles released to innocent owners and lienholders	LEA Proceeds - Storage	LEA Proceeds - Forfeited Vehicles	Proceeds deposited with Clerk of Court - due to LEA if vehicle forfeited
MADISON	18	1	\$ 147	\$ -	\$ -
MARTIN	16	5	\$ 1,918	\$ -	\$ 115
McDOWELL	14	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MECKLENBURG	136	59	\$ 15,097	\$ 23,869.00	\$ 5,955
MITCHELL	0	0	\$ 532	\$ -	\$ 505
MONTGOMERY	21	2	\$ 603	\$ -	\$ 145
MOORE	71	14	\$ 5,654	\$ -	\$ 900
NASH	68	9	\$ 4,429	\$ -	\$ 1,060
NEW HANOVER	98	24	\$ 10,484	\$ -	\$ 2,783
NORTHAMPTON	8	1	\$ 184	\$ -	\$ -
ONSLOW	73	18	\$ 10,452	\$ -	\$ 3,300
ORANGE	25	5	\$ 1,960	\$ -	\$ 1,795
PAMLICO	6	1	\$ 699	\$ -	\$ 215
PASQUOTANK	20	4	\$ 608	\$ 1,927.00	\$ 555
PENDER	28	4	\$ 1,810	\$ -	\$ 458
PERQUIMANS	2	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PERSON	35	3	\$ 1,957	\$ -	\$ 1,180
PITT	45	6	\$ 2,209	\$ -	\$ 1,215
POLK	9	1	\$ 19	\$ -	\$ -
RANDOLPH	78	9	\$ 5,087	\$ -	\$ 1,810
RICHMOND	27	5	\$ 1,184	\$ -	\$ 560
ROBESON	12	3	\$ 2,656	\$ -	\$ 575
ROCKINGHAM	90	5	\$ 2,863	\$ -	\$ 1,474
ROWAN	46	10	\$ 3,183	\$ -	\$ 2,665
RUTHERFORD	43	2	\$ 2,882	\$ 4,135.00	\$ 1,940
SAMPSON	43	6	\$ 1,304	\$ -	\$ 470
SCOTLAND	27	5	\$ 2,667	\$ -	\$ 2,250
STANLY	45	10	\$ 3,464	\$ 2,267.00	\$ 3,232
STOKES	30	2	\$ 1,966	\$ -	\$ 1,955
SURRY	78	7	\$ 5,120	\$ -	\$ 1,135
SWAIN	2	0	\$ 880	\$ -	\$ -
TRANSYLVANIA	5	0	\$ 224	\$ -	\$ 520
TYRRELL	3	0	\$ 1,469	\$ -	\$ 895
UNION	63	13	\$ 5,092	\$ -	\$ 2,390
VANCE	29	1	\$ 1,614	\$ -	\$ 1,245
WAKE	245	125	\$ 27,422	\$ -	\$ 16,615
WARREN	8	1	\$ 304	\$ -	\$ 275
WASHINGTON	7	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
WATAUGA	35	4	\$ 3,454	\$ -	\$ 3,700
WAYNE	42	7	\$ 3,253	\$ -	\$ 1,680
WILKES	57	6	\$ 4,436	\$ 1,113.00	\$ 1,175
WILSON	32	8	\$ 2,977	\$ -	\$ 475
YADKIN	41	5	\$ 1,110	\$ -	\$ 1,505
YANCEY	13	0	\$ 1,247	\$ -	\$ 445
Total	4,089	762	\$ 331,091	\$ 86,199	\$ 204,489

Forfeited Vehicles Retained for use by School Boards

Beaufort County	2006 Dodge Ram
Carteret County	1998 Ford Ranger
Carteret County	1998 Toyota Tacoma
Franklin County	2002 Chevrolet Cavalier
Greene County	1999 Chevrolet Truck
Jones County	1998 Ford Ranger
Stokes County	2000 Chevrolet Tahoe