



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
Session Law 1998 - 182, Section 38
Senate Bill 1336

Date Due: December 1, 2007
Report #15
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2007-2008

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DWI Vehicle Seizures October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007

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, 2006 through September 30, 2007, from reports prepared by the Division of Motor Vehicles and Tarheel Specialties.

- A total of 4,202 vehicles were impounded, averaging over 81 vehicles per week.
- A total of 789 vehicles were released to innocent owners or lienholders upon payment of towing and storage fees. (\$7,890 going to the General Fund of North Carolina)
- Tarheel Specialties splits the storage cost of released vehicles (90%/10%) with LEAs, resulting in \$41,288 revenue for the LEAs statewide.
- 1,959 vehicles were sold at public auction for a total of \$1,950,175 or an average of \$995 per vehicle. Tarheel Specialties paid out \$223,889 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 \$19,590 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 \$280,897 from the contractor for storage fees and proceeds from the sale of vehicles forfeited to local School Boards. Tarheel Specialties also sent \$106,543 to the Clerks of Court for vehicles not yet forfeited.
- Tarheel Specialties has approximately 1,300 vehicles that remain impounded.
- During the reporting period 156 vehicles were reported forfeited by the Courts.
- No 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

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

COUNTY	Number of DWI seized vehicles Oct 1, 2006 - Sept. 30, 2007	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	82	16	6,778	-	4,290
ALEXANDER	24	1	892	-	1,570
ALLEGHANY	6		23	-	-
ANSON	12	3	2,017	-	-
ASHE	27		764	-	-
AVERY	12	2	404	-	-
BEAUFORT	44	5	1,719	-	440
BERTIE	9		496	-	1,500
BLADEN	8	1	-	-	-
BRUNSWICK	29	8	5,084	-	145
BUNCOMBE	88	13	2,910	-	2,510
BURKE	65	5	73	639	-
CABARRUS	162	34	13,499	3,792	4,290
CALDWELL	71	6	2,941	-	1,050
CAMDEN	4	2	2,104	-	495
CARTERET	93	19	3,242	-	1,260
CASWELL	6	2	511	-	-
CATAWBA	74	13	7,416	-	3,180
CHATHAM	14	2	-	-	-
CHEROKEE	19	4	119	-	-
CHOWAN	3	1	-	-	-
CLAY	5		178	-	-
CLEVELAND			-	-	-
COLUMBUS	18	2	918	-	70
CRAVEN	25	3	5,398	3,135	-
CUMBERLAND	50	24	2,249	-	1,255
CURRITUCK	10	1	279	-	-
DARE	47	7	4,228	-	2,120
DAVIDSON	49	7	2,449	-	2,590
DAVIE	13	2	1,505	-	60
DUPLIN	21	1	82	-	-
DURHAM	46	7	1,136	-	3,061
EDGECOMBE	34	8	419	-	910
FORSYTH	143	35	12,210	-	3,515
FRANKLIN	65	7	344	2,061	-
GASTON	137	18	14,699	-	4,550
GATES	2	1	-	-	-
GRAHAM	1		-	-	-
GRANVILLE	7		-	-	-
GREENE	10		847	-	-
GUILFORD	220	36	12,664	-	6,008
HALIFAX	33	5	1,023	-	375
HARNETT	41	12	751	-	575
HAYWOOD	19	3	596	-	-
HENDERSON	67	13	3,310	-	950
HERTFORD	15	1	1,844	-	1,070
HOKE	26	6	2,925	-	750
HYDE	3	1	-	-	-
IREDELL	100	13	5,222	2,538	2,320
JACKSON	8	2	-	-	-
JOHNSTON	76	14	2,571	-	2,335
JONES	7		158	-	-

COUNTY	Number of DWI seized vehicles Oct 1, 2006 - Sept. 30, 2007	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
LEE	35	7	2,164	-	1,225
LENOIR	45	10	1,245	7,327	340
LINCOLN	30	3	816	-	600
MACON	23	2	1,628	-	655
MADISON	8	1	45	-	-
MARTIN	16	3	2,397	-	-
McDOWELL	11	1	792	-	-
MECKLENBURG	146	56	9,027	-	3,540
MITCHELL	3	1	-	-	-
MONTGOMERY	15	2	1,515	-	1,590
MOORE	55	11	3,306	-	1,695
NASH	86	15	3,489	-	310
NEW HANOVER	138	35	14,798		5,540
NORTHAMPTON	7	1	-	-	-
ONslow	85	11	2,988	2,065	1,155
ORANGE	44	11	5,383	-	1,745
PAMLICO	6	1	-	-	-
PASQUOTANK	18	3	1,969	-	730
PENDER	35	9	1,594	-	326
PERQUIMANS	3	1	-	-	-
PERSON	27	1	155	-	-
PITT	39	8	1,474	-	775
POLK	5	1	701	-	743
RANDOLPH	109	17	6,336	-	5,035
RICHMOND	19	7	819	-	780
ROBESON	21	2	19	-	-
ROCKINGHAM	86	13	2,438	-	1,348
ROWAN	59	14	3,272	-	700
RUTHERFORD	49	3	4,166	-	3,383
SAMPSON	30	2	1,758	-	-
SCOTLAND	18		1,384	-	45
STANLY	37	7	2,272	-	150
STOKES	9		2,102	2,251	2,325
SURRY	71	6	5,160	-	2,295
SWAIN	3		-	-	-
TRANSYLVANIA	11	3	186	-	-
TYRRELL	3		-	-	-
UNION	46	12	6,920	-	315
VANCE	27	2	1,062	-	585
WAKE	334	106	23,440	-	9,990
WARREN	8		-	-	-
WASHINGTON	7	2	1,064	-	2,330
WATAUGA	27	3	3,808	-	955
WAYNE	44	14	1,064	-	305
WILKES	49	6	2,238	1,432	1,770
WILSON	67	9	613	-	20
YADKIN	29	1	841	-	-
YANCEY	9		212	-	-
Total	4,202	789	\$ 255,657	\$ 25,240	\$ 106,543

No forfeited vehicles were retained by Local School Boards for their own use

COUNTY	Number of DWI seized vehicles Oct 1, 2006 - Sept. 30, 2007	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
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1,300 vehicles remain impounded by Tarheel Specialties (Contractor)