



## **Carteret County Sheriff's Office**

*Captain Jason A. Wank, Chief Detective*  
304 Craven Street \* Beaufort, NC 28516  
(252) 504-4800



**RELEASE DATE: 01/20/2012**

### ***NEWS RELEASE***

#### **Ayden man faces rape charges in Carteret & Pitt**

On 01/19/2012 Carteret County Detectives obtained warrants on Melvin Wayne Byrd, 37, of NC 102 East, Ayden, NC after having a sexual relationship with a minor.

Byrd was served seven Carteret County warrants at the Pitt County Jail where he remains on Pitt County charges of 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Rape, 2nd Degree Sex Offense with a minor, Incest, and Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. During the Pitt county investigation it was discovered that Byrd took the same minor to Carteret County where numerous sexual acts occurred in 2010.



Detective Lt. Michael Panzarella stated that in addition to charges obtained by the Pitt County Sheriff's Office, Byrd was additionally charged with the incidents that occurred in the Stella area of Carteret County. He was charged with Statutory Rape, Statutory Sex Offense with a Minor, Indecent Liberties with a child, Crime against nature, Incest, Felony Child abuse involving a sex act, and Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. Byrd remains in custody in the Pitt County Jail under a 5 Million Dollar Bond. No further information is being released because the victim is a juvenile.

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**ANONYMOUS REPORTS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CAN BE REPORTED TO  
CARTERET COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS AT (252) 726-INFO OR EMAIL  
[CRIMETIPS@CARTERETCOUNTYGOV.ORG](mailto:CRIMETIPS@CARTERETCOUNTYGOV.ORG)**

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**You can now text your Crime Stoppers Tip to (252) 241-0946**