



Carteret County Sheriffs Office

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



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NEWS RELEASE

Former Davis Fire Chief found dead in submerged vehicle

On 03-17-2011 Sheriff's deputies responded to a vehicle found submerged off a loading dock by employees at Jarrett Bay Boatworks Company in Beaufort, NC.

Former Fire Chief and active member of the Davis Fire Department, Michael Frank Tatum, 52, of Croaker St in Davis, NC was pulled out of the vehicle this morning after it was recovered from the water.

Tatum was currently the Captain of the Cape Lookout Ferry Service and arrived at Jarrett Bay late last night to pick up personnel who were driving the ferry to Jarrett Bay. The ferry was being transported for its yearly inspection before it was going to be put in operation for the season next week.



The Carteret County Sheriff's Office Dive Team in addition to personnel from the Beaufort Fire and Rescue, NC Marine Patrol, and US Coast Guard all played a role in extracting the vehicle from the water. At this time Sheriff's investigators do not suspect foul play. Tatum was transported to the medical examiner for an autopsy.