



## Carteret County Sheriffs Office

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



**RELEASE DATE: 12/23/2011**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

## **3 Arrested for Trafficking Prescription Meds**

On 12-22-2011 Carteret County Sheriff's Detectives, with the assistance of the Jacksonville Police department, arrested three Carteret County residents on multiple counts of trafficking in opium (prescription medication). The suspects drove to Jacksonville N.C. where they purchased 56 dosage units of Percocet, a "controlled" prescription medication. The suspects were arrested upon their return to Carteret County following a traffic stop in the Bogue community and subsequent search of the vehicle where detectives located the illegal prescription medication.

"This is what we deal with everyday with regard to the diversion and illegal selling of prescription medication. The dealers are getting a lot of their supply out-of-county and our bringing it back here to sell. We receive information and follow up on that information and are able to make these types of arrests" said Sheriff Asa Buck.

Suspect, Charges and Bond Information Below:



Miranda Renee Lawrence, 22 of Newport

Charge: All were Level II Trafficking  
Trafficking in Opium by Possession  
Trafficking in Opium by Transport  
Conspiracy to Trafficking in Opium  
Bond: \$150,000.00 secured.



Michael James Lawrence, 27, of Salter Path, NC

Charge: All were Level II Trafficking  
Trafficking in Opium by Possession  
Trafficking in Opium by Transport  
Conspiracy to Trafficking in Opium  
Also charged with 3 counts of Failure To Appear in Court  
Bond: \$258,000.00 secured



Ricardo Cozell Hill, 24, of Stella

Charge: All were level II Trafficking  
Trafficking in Opium by Possession  
Trafficking in Opium by Transport  
Conspiracy to Trafficking in Opium  
Bond: \$250,000.00