

Eight More Arrests in Meth Trafficking Ring

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Eight more arrests have come from a long-standing investigation into meth manufacturing and trafficking, a joint investigation of the Watauga County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit and Agents from the US Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration. Last Wednesday February 27th, deputies arrested the eight on Federal Warrants stemming from the investigation that began in 2008 when 11 individuals were arrested in March of 2012. The latest arrests include Charles Parlier, 55, and his wife Willa Dean Parlier, 53, were both arrested at their home in Mtn. City, TN and charged with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Charles Parlier was also charged with distribution of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of equipment and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine while Willa Dean Parlier was charged with possession of precursor chemicals with intent to manufacture methamphetamine. Jeremy Greene, 32, of Laurel Bloomery, TN was arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of equipment and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine. Chasiti Ward, 30, was also arrested with Jeremy Greene in Laurel Bloomery, TN and charged with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of equipment and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine. Chasiti Ward is also the daughter of Tommy Ward, the leader of the Drug Trafficking Organization, according to the release, a group that manufactured methamphetamine for more than ten years. He was arrested in 2012. Others arrested include Holly Rhymer, 26, of Mtn. City, TN, charged with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of equipment and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine; Sara Brewer, 36, of Newland, NC was arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of equipment and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine; Ricky Ward, 52, of Sugar Grove, NC was arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture more than 50 grams or more of methamphetamine; Coty Pennington, 23, of Mtn. City, TN was arrested and charged with conspiracy to manufacture more than 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. The Watauga Sheriff's Office release says that the minimum mandatory prison sentence for these charges is ten years to life with the possibility of up to a ten million dollar fine.