

\$68,000 Drug Cash Confiscated After Search

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More cash has been found and confiscated at a Howards Creek Road residence occupied by two men now in federal custody on drug charges. Yesterday, narcotics detectives with the Watauga County Sheriff's Office, Boone Police Department, and the NC Department of Revenue, subsequent to an on-going investigation, returned to the residence of 671-B Howard's Creek Road, and turned up more cash that investigators say was receipts of drug deals. The residence was that of Louis Enrique Garcia and Javier Sanchez Chavez, who detectives arrested on December 7th during the execution of a narcotics search warrant netting a seizure of over a pound of crystal methamphetamine. As part of the ongoing investigation, narcotics detectives located and seized additional US Currency of over \$68,000 which were direct proceeds stemming from the sale and distribution of methamphetamine. Sheriff Len Hagaman said, "Without question, the seizure of large amounts of currency, in concert with the actual seizure of the narcotics, delivers a devastating blow to their drug organization. He pointed out the reality of the proceeds being many times greater than "honest and hard working citizens may make in multiple years." He said the investigation is still going and more arrests are expected.