

Three Charged in Ashe Church Burning

Written by Steve Frank
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Ashe Sheriff James Williams reports that the Ashe County Sheriff's Office has arrested 3 individuals for the Arson of North Beaver Baptist Church. The arson occurred in the early hours of July 29, 2012 and resulted in a total loss of the establishment. While only a few items were discovered to be missing from the church, the total estimated loss of North Beaver Baptist was \$800,000.

Damion Okoyia Blevins, 21, from Todd, has been charged with Setting Fire to Burn & Aid the Burning of a House of Worship (Class E Felony), Breaking and/or Entering a Place of Worship with intent to Commit a Felony/Larceny (Class G Felony) and Larceny after Breaking or Entering (Class H Felony). Blevins' bond was posted at \$500,000. He was currently incarcerated for Discharging a Weapon into a Residence as well as several additional charges. Anthony Dustin Graybeal, 24, from West Jefferson, has been charged with Setting Fire to Burn & Aid the Burning of a House of Worship (Class E Felony), Breaking and/or Entering a Place of Worship with intent to Commit a Felony/Larceny (Class G Felony) and Larceny after Breaking or Entering (Class H Felony). The Sheriff said the third suspect was under 16 years old at the time of the crime was charged as a juvenile and that their information on him cannot be released, but the sheriff said the investigation is on-going and additional individuals may be arrested at a later date.