

## Two Year Probe Yields Two Meth Arrests

Written by Steve Frank  
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Ashe Sheriff James Williams reports that the Ashe County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit has completed an investigation that resulted in 2 arrests for manufacturing methamphetamine. Detectives executed a search warrant at the home of James Ray Arnold and Kesha Marie Lyalls on Peak Road in Creston. Upon execution, 2 active "one-pot" methamphetamine labs were located. Also found inside the residence were 2 in-active methamphetamine labs, 2 HCL Generators and many precursors for manufacturing methamphetamine. Sheriff Williams said that the investigation has been ongoing for over 2 years, calling the manufacturing of meth in Ashe County and the selling of meth to our community 'troubling.' He said that as users begin purchasing these narcotics, "they quickly become addicted, focusing on the need of meth instead of their own life and family."

James Ray Arnold 42, also known as "Hump," and Kesha Marie Lyalls, 24, were charged with the class C Felonies of Manufacturing Methamphetamine, Trafficking in Methamphetamine by Manufacturing greater than 400 grams, and the class F felony of Possession of an Immediate Precursor Chemical with the Intent to Manufacture Methamphetamine. Arnold's and Lyalls' bonds were set at \$100,000.

Anyone with additional information about this investigation is asked to call the Ashe County Sheriff's Office at (336) 846-5633 or Ashe County Crime Stoppers at (336) 846-4188. Crime Stoppers pays cash for information leading to the arrest of individuals connected to certain crimes.