

## Caldwell Schools Employee Charged

Written by Steve Frank

Wednesday, 10 April 2013 06:26

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Caldwell Sheriff Alan Jones has announced that Sunday, Agents with the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office Ice Unit charged a Hudson--a teacher assistant in the Caldwell School System-- for felony manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine precursor chemicals, and maintaining a dwelling to keep/store a controlled substance. Marc Delane Hodges, age 50, was arrested by the United States Marshall Service at Charlotte Douglas International Airport while returning from a weeks' vacation in Cozumel Mexico with his girlfriend, Hodges literally arrested from his seat in first class after the plane landed. After a joint drug investigation with the Hudson Police Department conducted on last week, ICE Agents, and Hudson Police identified Hodges as a prime suspect after sifting through his household trash, finding precursor chemicals and paraphernalia used to make meth. Agents report Hodges had been on the radar from several ephedrine product purchases at various stores. The officers then executed a search warrant for Hodges' apartment, and Special Agents with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Clandestine Lab Team executed the search warrant. The search of Hodges' apartment turned up components of a meth lab and more precursor chemicals, agents identifying the lab as a "red p" type, an older way of manufacturing meth. Agents also seized his 2002 BMW car as a result of the investigation. Hodges was an employee with the Caldwell County School System as a teacher assistant.