



## NEWS RELEASE

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## **152 FUGITIVES ARRESTED IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

**FAYETTEVILLE, NC** – The U.S. Marshals Service, Eastern District of North Carolina, announces the conclusion of *Operation Swift Justice*, a multi-agency fugitive operation conducted this week in Cumberland County. In the pre-dawn hours Tuesday, scores of officers from a variety of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies gathered together in Fayetteville for a single purpose – to set out in search of Cumberland County’s most wanted fugitives. The targets of this operation were wanted for a variety of offenses including assault, firearms, narcotics, and probation violation, and by 11:00 am Thursday, 152 subjects had been arrested and 202 warrants had been served. Additionally, two firearms were seized along with various quantities of marijuana and crack cocaine.

Participating agencies included the USMS Violent Fugitive Task Force, Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office, Fayetteville Police Department, N.C. Division of Community Corrections, ATF, FBI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, Home Mills Police Department, Spring Lake Police Department, and Cumberland County Alcohol Beverage Control Law Enforcement. This operation highlights the impact that the combined resources of the area’s law enforcement can have on a designated area in a short period of time, and effectively reached every community in Cumberland County. Additional arrests are also forthcoming as officers pursue information gathered during the event.

Significant arrests include:

Brendell Davis, age 42, wanted by the Greensboro Police Department for assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, robbery with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, larceny of a motor vehicle, conspiracy to commit robbery, and possession of a firearm by a felon. Davis had previously been arrested by the Marshals Service in Fayetteville for attempted murder.

Teyah Butler, age 20, wanted by the FBI for robbery, kidnapping, and conspiracy to commit robbery.

"*Operation Swift Justice* lets the public know that the federal, state and local law enforcement officers in Fayetteville and Cumberland County work together each and every day to ensure that this community is safe from individuals attempting to avoid prosecution," said Scott J. Parker, United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Fayetteville Police Department Interim Chief Katherine Bryant said "The Fayetteville Police Department is proud to partner with other law enforcement agencies in *Operation Swift Justice*. As many law enforcement officers understand, criminals respect neither the victims, their rights, nor borders. It is not uncommon for suspects to target victims on all sides of the city limits. It is critical that law enforcement agencies from many different jurisdictions work together on a daily basis to take criminals who plague our communities off of our streets."

"We all accomplish so much more when we have the opportunity to work together as a team", said Cumberland County Sheriff Earl R. Butler. "Pooling our resources and skills ensures that justice will be served in our community."

"ATF will continue to work aggressively with our law enforcement partners to address violent crime and repeat offenders," said ATF Special Agent in Charge Wayne L. Dixie. "One of our highest priorities is to make the communities of Cumberland County and the surrounding area a more safe and secure place for the people to live and raise their families."

W. David Guise, Section Chief, North Carolina Community Corrections, said "*Operation Swift Justice* is just another example of the successful partnership and collaboration between Community Corrections and the U.S. Marshals Service. Our commitment of almost twenty officers per day underscores the value we place on the apprehension of our absconders and threats to public safety. This operation highlights the impact made by working together to become one agency, with the core mission of protecting the citizens of North Carolina."

"This type of inter-agency cooperation is an important tool for local law enforcement," said Bill Belvin, Chief ABC Officer, Cumberland County Alcohol Beverage Law Enforcement. "Working with the U.S. Marshals Service gives local law enforcement the reach necessary to track down their most sought after suspects and arrest them - getting these violent criminals off the street makes our community more secure and our citizens safer. As the Chief of a small law enforcement agency, I appreciate the Marshals Service organizing this operation and including us in this opportunity to provide yet another service to the community."

Captain D.M. Servie, Commander of the Police Operations Bureau of the Hope Mills Police Department, said “We want to thank the U.S. Marshals Service for bringing this campaign to our community and for including the Hope Mills Police Department in the cooperative effort to remove dangerous fugitives from our streets. It’s no secret to the Law Enforcement community that criminals continue to commit crimes even while fugitives from justice and this initiative certainly hinders their ability to victimize the citizens of Hope Mills and Cumberland County.”



Brendell DAVIS



Teyah BUTLER