



**NEWS RELEASE  
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**TASK FORCE ROUNDUP RESULTS IN THE ARREST OF OVER 100 PROBATION VIOLATORS**

**Raleigh, NC** – From March 30<sup>th</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the United States Marshals Service for the Eastern District of North Carolina sponsored a multi-agency fugitive roundup in the Raleigh area. The goal of this operation was to arrest as many state probation absconders and violators as possible and bring them back under the control and supervision of the North Carolina Division of Community Corrections.

The operation, dubbed “March Madness”, began in early February when N.C. Probation Officers assigned to the Violent Fugitive Task Force gathered up the names of approximately 950 Wake County probation absconders and violators and began compiling information on their possible whereabouts. Over the next month and a half, 47 were located and arrested and 2 more were found to be incarcerated in other facilities.

The culmination of the operation was an intensive, 4-day roundup that began early Monday morning and involved officers from the U.S. Marshals, N.C. Division of Community Corrections, Raleigh Police Department, Wake County Sheriff’s Office, Sharpsburg Police Department, and Wilson Police Department. By the end of the roundup Thursday afternoon, an additional 60 probation violators had been located, for a total of 109 arrests and just over 120 warrants cleared. Officers also recovered 3 firearms, ammunition, and a quantity of counterfeit controlled substances.

Some of the more significant arrests included: Anthony Rashon Deans, wanted for armed robbery and absconding from probation in Wilson County; Roy Frieson, probation violator found with a shotgun, 9mm pistol, counterfeit narcotics, and assorted drug paraphernalia; Linwood Davis, a validated gang member wanted by Durham Police Department for trafficking in narcotics; and Cesar Riano, who had probation violations for fleeing to elude arrest and DWI and now faces a review of his immigration status.

Clyde Cook, Jr., U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of NC stated, “This operation was yet another fine example of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies successfully working together as a team for the common good—in this case, finding and sweeping from the streets many convicted criminals who failed to adhere to probation requirements. The task force solely targeted such probation violators who had made themselves hard to find. In a similar operation conducted in Wilmington two weeks ago, the VFTF hauled in 40 probation violators in addition to more than 180 other persons wanted for a variety of offenses. Meanwhile, we urge anyone who knows the whereabouts of any fugitives still at large to call the VFTF’s Tip Line at 1-877-8FUGITIVE, which does not require callers to identify themselves.”

“We’re grateful to all the agencies who helped locate and arrest these probation absconders,” said Community Corrections Director Tim Moose. “Every absconder arrested is

one more person held accountable for disregarding the terms of probation, and each arrest helps make our communities safer.”

“We were pleased to assist this joint operation and believe it will benefit our city and the region,” said Raleigh Chief of Police Harry P. Dolan. “We know from experience that some of those who do not abide by the lawful conditions of their probation or parole continue to commit crimes. The work of the officers involved in this operation will help prevent that and will reduce the likelihood that members of this community will become crime victims.”

Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison added that “due to the efforts of law enforcement agencies working closely together, roundups such as March Madness help make our streets and communities safer.”