



Bates County Sheriff's Office

Chad Anderson, Sheriff

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Press Release

On 04-10-2015 in the early morning hours, a Bates County Sheriff's Deputy was performing his normal patrol duties in rural Bates County. The Bates County Deputy observed a gold Buick commit a traffic offense. Based on that fact along with the vehicle location and time of night the Deputy decided to conduct a traffic stop to investigate the vehicle and its occupants further.

During the investigative traffic stop the Deputy made contact with the driver. The driver was identified as Johnathan Howard (DOB 02-24-1987) of Nevada, MO. During a driver license check of the driver, it was determined that his license was suspended. Johnathan Howard had outstanding warrants for probation violation for Possession of Controlled substance, Unlawful Possession, transport, manufacture, and repair or sale an illegal weapon. All of these charges were from the circuit court of Vernon County.

During the traffic stop the Bates County K-9 Unit was called to the scene. The K-9 Officer ran a check of the vehicle through the use of the K-9. The K-9, during its deployment and check of the vehicle, alerted and located approximately 54 grams of methamphetamine inside the vehicle. The suspect was arrested and received an additional warrant from the Bates County Circuit Court for Trafficking in drugs in the second degree. His bond was set at \$25,000.00 Cash or Surety.

Bates County Deputies patrol rural Bates County to prevent crimes like these. Bates County Deputies will actively investigate out of place vehicles in our county. These people often commit various other types of crimes. Sheriff Anderson promotes proactive policing to investigate and prevent subjects of this nature committing crimes throughout our county. He believes that in order to serve the citizens of Bates County, to the highest standard, preventing crime before it happens is the ultimate goal of his office.

As always, Sheriff Anderson would like to remind you to be aware of your surroundings and to report anything suspicious in your community to the Bates County Sheriff's Office. This will assist Deputies in solving crime in Bates County.

