



NEW BERN POLICE
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City of New Bern

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New Bern, North Carolina

Three Centuries of North Carolina Heritage



FRANK PALOMBO
CHIEF OF POLICE
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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

April 25, 2011

CALL LEADS TO ARREST OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL BUS DRIVER

On April 23, 2011 at approximately 7:23pm, a citizen called the New Bern Police Communications Center while following an orange officially marked school bus from the state of Virginia to report the bus was operating in a careless and reckless manner. The bus was bearing Virginia Registration Tag # 100145L. The caller stated the bus drove through a railroad crossing in Bridgeton. The bus had the crossing arm out causing the crossing arm to hit the bridge. The caller reported the bus appeared to be occupied by the single white male driver. The caller followed the bus into the city limits of New Bern.

At approximately 7:29 pm, a New Bern Police officer monitored the bus weaving within the lane and was able to stop the bus at the intersection of Trent Creek and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Officers were able to confirm there were no other occupants on the bus other than the driver, **Samuel David MULLENHAUER**, D.O.B 7/27/1983 of 126 Byrd Point Lane, Louisa, Virginia.

Upon initial contact with **MULLENHAUER**, officers began a Driving While Impaired investigation. **MULLENHAUER** was taken into custody and transported to the New Bern Police Department and charged with Driving While Impaired and No Operators License. **MULLENHAUER** was placed in the Craven County Jail under a \$1,000.00 bond with a court date for June 7, 2011.

The school bus was impounded and taken to a secure location. The investigation revealed that the bus was stolen from a school bus yard out of Chesapeake, VA. Additional charges for Possession of Stolen Property are pending against **MULLENHAUER**.

The New Bern Police Department is committed to Community Policing. Citizens are encouraged to become a **“Partner in Policing,”** by reporting suspected illegal activity to the New Bern Police Department’s **TIPS** line at **(252) 636-5034** or the Craven County Crime Stoppers line at 633-5141.

For additional information, please contact Lt. Linda T. Godette, Public Information Officer, at the New Bern Police Department at 252-672-4196.

Frank Palombo, Chief of Police