

MOBILE METH LAB DISCOVERED IN VEHICLE

Towns County Sheriff's deputies responded to a call at a gas station off Hwy. 75 North in Towns County, in reference to a female who had locked herself in the bathroom. She had reported to 911 that people were trying to hurt her.

Upon arrival and further investigation deputies on scene began to suspect narcotics being involved. Upon further investigation, Deputy Marc Burnette and Lt. Brian Wilson did find what appeared to be the makings of a mobile meth lab. At that time, Lt. Wilson ordered the search to stop for the safety of the officers on scene and secured the suspects.

Lt. Wilson immediately called an agent with the Appalachian Drug Task Force who is trained to handle hazardous meth lab response. This did lead to the arrest of four individuals, all being charged with offenses related to the manufacture of methamphetamine.

Layla Jump, (18) of Marble, NC, Jonathan McDonald (25) of Murphy, NC, Michelle Duckworth (40), also of Murphy, and Anthony Brown (37) of Hiwassee, were all charged with possession of items related to the manufacture of Schedule I/Schedule II Narcotics (Methamphetamine).

Drug agents did confirm that the items deputies found in the vehicle, registered to a North Carolina address, were all the ingredients needed to manufacture methamphetamine.

At press time, Anthony Brown remained in Towns County Detention Center. The other three subjects had been released on \$5,000 bond each.

"I'm proud of the work of the deputies. This meth lab wasn't able to be assembled because of proactive law enforcement," Sheriff Clinton said.