

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION



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For Immediate Release

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OPERATION NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office announce the success of a 5-month crime suppression initiative called Operation New Years Resolution.

The effort started on January 6, 2009 and concluded on June 4, 2009.

Operation New Years Resolution was designed to reduce crime in various communities, serve hundreds of outstanding arrest warrants dealing with violent and drug offenders and gain additional information on drug activity across Lancaster County.

Statistics:

Arrests:

214 - Total
119 – as a result of checkpoints, warrant sweeps, specialized narcotics operations

Offenses:

355 Offenses -- Including:
28 for Crimes Against the Person
5 Murder Charges
9 Criminal Domestic Violence Charges
143 Drug Violations: (40% of arrests made in Operation)
84 Individuals Charged

12 Weapons Violations
14 Property Crimes
4 – Failure to register as a sex offender

Warrants:

61 Bench Warrants served

Of Special Note:

February 19, 2009:

Law enforcement officers helped safely recover two abducted children who were the focus of a statewide Amber Alert during the search for their abductor, Gerardo Reyes-Campos. The suspect was also accused of stabbing his girlfriend's neck before the abduction.

Reyes-Campos was later arrested by members of the Crime Suppression Team.

March 31, 2009:

Law enforcement officers arrested Derrick Wade, Dequavius Blair, Keith Coleman and Montrez Clark for the murder of Lamario Ford. The victim was found beaten and shot inside a Cunningham Street home.

May 1, 2009:

LCSO STAR Team members and SLED SWAT Team members were called to Indian Land after an armed man barricaded himself inside a home.

The suspect, James Pruitt was accused of shooting and killing his 74-year-old stepfather.

Pruitt was later found with a self-inflicted gunshot wound after the standoff.

Operation New Years Resolution consisted of approximately 70 law enforcement officers from SLED and The Lancaster County Sheriff's Office.

The Lancaster County Magistrate's Court, Lancaster County Family Court, SC Highway Patrol, SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, Chester County Sheriff's Office, Fairfield County Sheriff's Office, The Sixth Circuit Solicitor's Office assisted in the overall effort.