



News Release

February 24, 2009

Washington County Sheriff Tim Helder announced today a methamphetamine lab was seized from a vehicle in western Washington County.

On Saturday, February 21, 2009 a Washington County deputy stopped a white 1996 Chevrolet Suburban for speeding at the intersection of Highway 45 and Highway 62 between Prairie Grove, AR and Lincoln, AR in western Washington County. Upon questioning the two occupants of the vehicle, the deputy learned the driver, John Barry **MATHEWS**, W/M, (43) of Farmington was on active probation and had a suspended license. He also determined the passenger, Jeremy William **STAFFORD**, W/M, (22) of Fayetteville had outstanding warrants and was on active parole. Items commonly used to manufacture methamphetamine, 11.6 grams of white powder substance (field tested positive for ephedrine), 2 bags of dry ice, a 32 ounce bottle of muriatic acid, 2 bottles of charcoal lighter fluid, assorted tubing and pieces of metal pipe, were also located in the vehicle.

John Barry **MATHEWS** was arrested for **POSSESSION of DRUG PARAPHERNALIA with INTENT to MANUFACTURE METHAMPHETAMINE, DRIVING on SUSPENDED Driver's LICENSE, SPEEDING, FICTICIOUS VEHICLE LICENSE and FAILURE to REGISTER VEHICLE**. Jeremy William **STAFFORD** was arrested for **POSSESSION of DRUG PARAPHERNALIA with INTENT to MANUFACTURE METHAMPHETAMINE**.

The 4th Judicial Drug Task Force was notified and responded to the traffic stop where they seized the above items and are investigating this incident. The task force is made up of investigators from police departments in Fayetteville, Springdale, University of Arkansas, Prairie Grove, West Fork,

Johnson, Lincoln, Greenland, Farmington, Elm Springs and Elkins, as well as the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

If you require further information please contact Kelly Cantrell at (479) 444-5791,

kcantrell@co.washington.ar.us or cell - (479) 530-5729.

#####