



# ASHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF B. PHIL HOWELL

CHIEF DEPUTY DANNY HOUCK



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For Immediate Release  
July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Creston Man Arrested for Several Counts of Sexual Exploitation

Jefferson N.C. - Sheriff B. Phil Howell announces the arrest of 40-year-old Carl Jefferson Abbott Jr. of Creston, NC.

In recent months, the Ashe County Sheriff's Office and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation launched a joint investigation into illegal internet-based activity concerning child sexual exploitation.

The investigation came to an end on June 11, 2024, when the Sheriff's Office and SBI personnel executed two search warrants in the Creston area. These warrants ultimately led to Abbott Jr.'s arrest and the seizure of several electronic devices.

**Carl Jefferson Abbott Jr.** of Creston, NC. is being held at the Ashe County Jail under a \$500,000 secured bond. His charges include:

- 4 Felony Counts of Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
- 5 Felony Counts of Third-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
- Resisting a Public Officer

**This investigation is ongoing. The Ashe County Sheriff's Office is seeking information and/or potential victims related to this case. Any information can be directed to the Detective Division at (336) 846-5990. Those who wish to remain anonymous can reach the Crimestoppers Hotline at (336) 846-4188.**



