

ASHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff B. Phil Howell



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For Immediate Release
April 9th, 2025

Charles Mcree Franklin Charged with five counts of Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor

Jefferson N.C.: Sheriff B. Phil Howell announces the arrest of 43-year-old Charles Mcree Franklin of Creston, NC, for 5 counts of Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor.



The Ashe County Sheriff's Office and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) launched a joint investigation into illegal internet-based activity concerning child sexual exploitation.

On March 26th, 2025, Detective Curtis Elliott obtained search warrants for Franklin. These warrants ultimately led to Franklin's arrest and the seizure of several electronic devices. This investigation is ongoing, and more charges are expected.

Charles Mcree Franklin of Creston was arrested and held at the Ashe County Detention Center under a \$500,000 secured bond. His charges include :

- 5 Felony Counts of Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor

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