



## Shallotte Police Department Monthly -March 2025

### Highlights

- 1166 Calls for Service and Self-Initiated incidents
- Uniform Patrol issued 69 citations
- 35 Traffic Accident Investigations
- 238 Volunteer Hours
- Staff participated in “Read Across America” at Waccamaw School & New Beginnings
- DARE Class at Southeastern Christian Academy
- Staff attended School Safety meeting at The COAST.
- Staff attended HOA meeting at Owendon Plantation
- Staff attended Career Days at BCC, Shallotte Middle, and Waccamaw School
- Staff participated in checkpoint mutual aid with BCSO

### Investigations and Reports Summary

The Shallotte Police Department’s Investigative Division managed 8 cases in March. The division filed charges in two cases, which resulted in 5 felony charges., while obtaining four search warrants. In addition to this month’s newly assigned cases, the detective division continues to work several high priority cold cases.

Details of some of this month’s newly assigned cases and one follow-up are provided below.

#### **1. Felony Financial Fraud:**

On March 12, 2025, an officer from the Shallotte Police Department was called to Lowe’s Home Improvement regarding a past incident. An asset protection employee explained that on February 16, 2025, a man had returned lumber and nails to the store and received a Lowe’s gift card worth \$170.80. The man then left in a company truck from Impex Glass Shop.



On March 14, 2025, the detective investigated the incident and identified the suspect using a DMV photo and video footage from Lowe's. During the investigative interview with the detective division, the suspect admitted to the crime and was charged with Felony Obtaining Property by False Pretenses.

### **2. Felony Financial Transaction Card Fraud:**

On February 24, 2025, the Shallotte Police Department received a report from Myrtle Beach PD regarding an ongoing fraud investigation. Myrtle Beach PD initially took a report after the owner of Buddy's Services LLC reported several fraudulent transactions from the company account. These transactions were authorized by an individual employed as the business's accountant.

According to the report, the accountant used company cards to make purchases and transfers totaling more than \$16,000. Authorities attempted to reach the business owner for further details but were only able to leave a voicemail.

The business and its accountant are still in the process of sorting through financial records in preparation for tax filing. They have stated they will contact law enforcement once they are ready to submit all relevant documentation. In addition to the ongoing investigation by Myrtle Beach and Shallotte PD, both BCSO and Leland law enforcement agencies are also looking into similar fraud reports involving the accountant from previous employers within their jurisdiction.

### **3. FOLLOW-UP on a December's statutory rape of a child case:**

In a significant development in the ongoing investigation, authorities have identified an additional female victim connected to the case of December's Statutory rape case. As a result, the adult male offender now faces four new felony sex charges with a child. This update follows further forensic analysis, which led to the victim's identification and the strengthening of the case against the suspect. The investigation remains ongoing as law enforcement continues to pursue justice for all involved.