



# EMERALD ISLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

7500 EMERALD DR.  
EMERALD ISLE, NC 28594

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
3:00PM December 21, 2016

### Emerald Isle Police charge three area teens in recent house fire

On December 8, 2016 at 9:35PM Emerald Isle Police and Fire Department personnel responded to 122 Heverly Drive in response to a report of a structure fire at that location. Upon arrival, responders found the three story residence on fire with flames coming from the rear and sides of the residence. Firefighters from Emerald Isle, Western Carteret, Indian Beach, Pine Knoll Shores and Broad and Gales Creek Fire departments worked for over an hour extinguishing the fire which left the residence with severe damage and losses estimated at over \$180,000.00.

During the investigation of this incident by both fire and police department it was learned that the fire was started when three area teens put a plastic bottle containing a chemical mixture in the trash cans underneath the residence. This mixture of chemicals (which is not being released) later reacted with each other and combusted starting the fire which spread throughout the house.

Police have charged the following teens with 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Arson:

Peyton Patrick Weist, white male, 18 years of age  
Emerald Isle, NC 28594  
\$10,000 secured bond

Lee Michael Wilson, white male, 17 years of age  
Havelock, NC 28532  
\$10,000 secured bond

A third 15-year-old teen involved in this incident has been referred to the Juvenile Court authorities for prosecution. Due to his age, no information is being released regarding his identity or status.

Emerald Isle Police would like to thank everyone who came forward with information related to this investigation, as well as, the cooperation of local businesses where the materials were purchased, for their assistance in helping to solve this case.

The department would encourage all parents to talk to their children and inform them that mixing chemicals can be extremely dangerous and can cause toxic or explosive reactions that can lead to property damage, severe injury or even death.

**No additional information is being released at this time.**