

Sandra Hairston
United States Attorney
Middle District of North Carolina

March 2017

101 South Edgeworth St.
Greensboro, NC 27401
336-333-5351
www.usdoj.gov/usao/ncm

Counties of the Middle District

Alamance
Cabarrus
Caswell
Chatham
Davidson
Davie
Durham
Forsyth
Guilford
Hoke
Lee
Montgomery
Moore
Orange
Person
Randolph
Richmond
Rockingham
Rowan
Scotland
Stanly
Stokes
Surry
Yadkin

United States Attorney Ripley Rand Announces Resignation

Greensboro – Ripley Rand, the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina submitted his resignation to President Barack Obama effective January 13, 2017. Rand has joined a private law firm in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Mr. Rand was sworn into office on January 1, 2011, after nomination by President Barack Obama and confirmation by the United States Senate. The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of North Carolina handles all federal criminal and civil matters in 24 counties in central North Carolina.

“The staff of the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of North Carolina are the finest group of people in any office anywhere in the federal government, and it has been my great honor to work with them and to serve this Administration. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this office,” said United States Attorney Rand.

First Assistant United States Attorney Sandra Hairston serves as the Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina until Mr. Rand's successor is confirmed.

Press Release: January 13, 2017

Violent Crimes Anti -Terrorism Advisory Council (VC-ATAC)

Meets at 9:30 AM

415 N. Edgeworth St. Greensboro

March 29, 2017
 April 26, 2017
 May 31, 2017
 June 28, 2017
 July 26, 2017
 August 30, 2017
 September 27, 2017
 October 25, 2017
 December 6, 2017

Identity Theft Task Force Meeting

Meets at 9:30 AM

March 10, 2017	Durham
April 21, 2017 (3 rd Friday)	Greensboro
May 12, 2017	Durham
June 9, 2017	Greensboro
July 14, 2017	Durham
August 11, 2017	Greensboro
September 8, 2017	Durham
October 13, 2017	Greensboro
November 17, 2017	Durham

Greensboro – U. S. Attorney’s Office
 Durham – Durham District Attorney’s Office

PSN Middle District Advisory Team (MDAT)

Meeting Dates

April 20, 2017	Davidson County
July 20, 2017	Durham
October 19, 2017	Rowan

Meetings will be 9:00 AM-12:00 noon

Site Contacts

Alamance	Jackie Sheffield
Cabarrus	Jodi Ramirez
Davidson	Jayanna Nichols

Site Contacts (cont.)

Durham	Jennifer Snyder
Greensboro	Stacy Finch
High Point	Dennis Szentmariay
Lee	Darla Cole
Orange	Jabe Hunter
Rockingham	Daryl Crowder
Rowan	Alice Lawson
Stanly	Shanta Watkins
Winston-Salem	Daniel Clark
Project Reentry	Rebecca Sauter
UNCG	John Weil

PSN Notification Dates

DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday	May 2, 2017	6:00 PM	High Point
Wed	May 17, 2017	3:00 PM	Rockingham
Thursday	July 27, 2017	5:00 PM	Winston-Salem
Tuesday	August 8, 2017	6:00 PM	High Point
Wed	October 25, 2017	3:00 PM	Rockingham
Thursday	October 26, 2017	5:00 PM	Winston-Salem
Tuesday	December 5, 2017	6:00 PM	High Point

Greensboro	Training Center 1510 N. Church St.
High Point	City Council Chamber 211 S. Hamilton St.
Rockingham	Agricultural Center, 525 Hwy 65, Reidsville
Winston-Salem	Police Department 725 Cherry St

Human Trafficking

North Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking (NCCAHT)

May 4, 2017
 August 3, 2017
 November 11, 2017

Triad Rapid Response Team

2017 Meeting Schedule, all locations TBD.

March 30, 2017	Case Reviews
May 11, 2017	TRRT
June 29, 2017	Case Reviews
August 10, 2017	TRRT
September 28, 2017	Case Reviews
November 9, 2017	TRRT
December 7, 2017	Case Review

Middle District of North Carolina Firearm and Violent Crime Assignments

Alamance County	AUSA Mike DeFranco	Greensboro Office	336-332-6339
Cabarrus County	AUSA Stephen Inman	Greensboro Office	336-332-6321
Caswell County	AUSA Mike DeFranco	Greensboro Office	336-332-6339
Chatham County	AUSA Mike DeFranco	Greensboro Office	336-332-6339
Davidson County	AUSA Terry Meinecke	Winston-Salem	336-747-7510
Davie County	AUSA Terry Meinecke	Winston-Salem	336-747-7510
Durham County	SAUSA Kennedy Gates	Greensboro Office	336-332-6316
	AUSA Kyle Pousson	Greensboro Office	336-332-6368
Forsyth	SAUSA Kim Davis	Winston-Salem	336-747-7507
Guilford County	AUSA Jack Alsup	Greensboro Office	336-332-6331
Hoke County	AUSA Anand Ramaswamy	Greensboro Office	336-332-6340
Lee County	AUSA JoAnna McFadden	Greensboro Office	336-332-6362
Montgomery County	AUSA Anand Ramaswamy	Greensboro Office	336-332-6340
Moore County	AUSA JoAnna McFadden	Greensboro Office	336-332-6362
Orange County	AUSA Mike DeFranco	Greensboro Office	336-332-6339
Person County	AUSA Mike DeFranco	Greensboro Office	336-332-6339
Randolph County	AUSA Jack Alsup	Greensboro Office	336-332-6331
Richmond County	AUSA Cliff Barrett	Greensboro Office	336-332-6316
Rockingham County	AUSA Lisa Boggs	Greensboro Office	336-332-6334
Rowan County	AUSA Terry Meinecke	Winston-Salem	336-747-7510
Scotland County	AUSA Anand Ramaswamy	Greensboro Office	336-332-6340
Stanly County	AUSA Anand Ramaswamy	Greensboro Office	336-332-6340
Stokes County	AUSA Graham Green	Winston-Salem	336-747-7501
Surry County	AUSA Graham Green	Winston-Salem	336-747-7501
Yadkin County	AUSA Graham Green	Winston-Salem	336-747-7501

Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Programs

A unique partnership effort of the U.S. Department of Justice; local, state, tribal, and federal public safety agencies; and national organizations, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Programs provide death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

2017 Benefit

The amount of the PSOB benefit is \$343,589.00 for eligible deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2015.

<https://www.psob.gov>

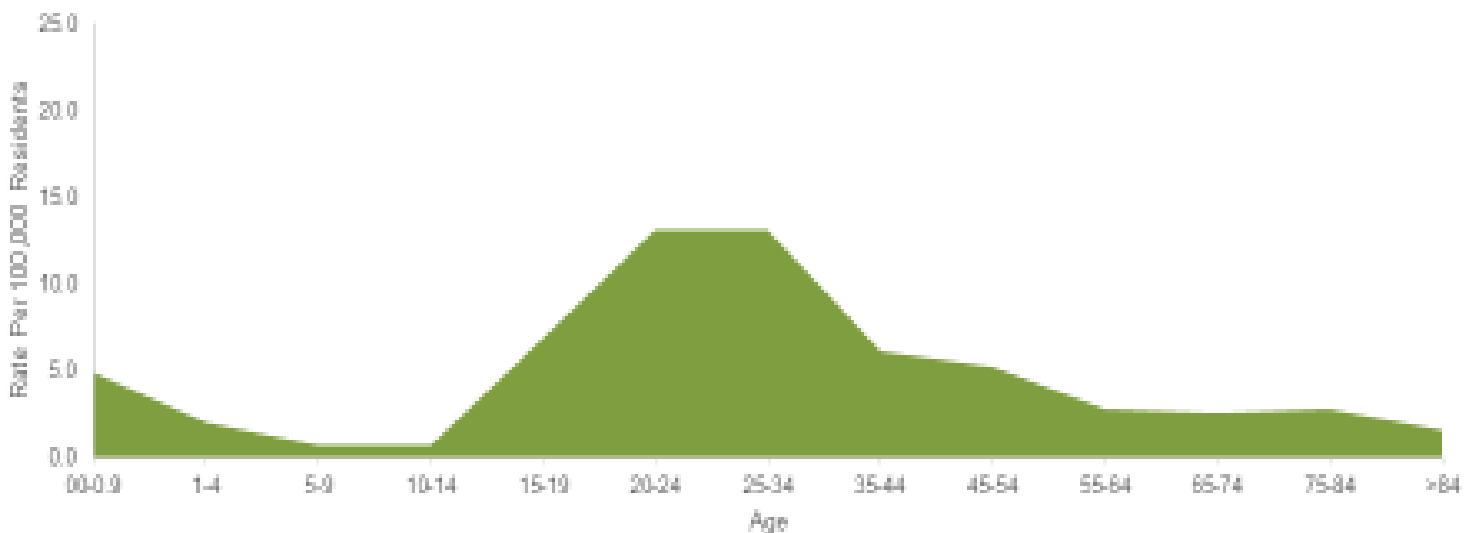
Injury & Violence Data Update: Middle District Data

Injury and Violence Prevention Branch
NC Division of Public Health
Scott Proescholdbell, MPH

Below are slides from a presentation made by Scott Proescholdbell, at the January, 2017 Middle District PSN meeting. The presentation focused on deaths in the Middle District.

Homicide in the Middle District: 2010-2015*

- 953 (28.6%) of all homicides in NC took place in the Middle District. Most homicide victims in the Middle District were residents of District counties (92.3%).
- Homicides peak among those 20-34 years of age, at 13.1 homicides per 100,000 (5.5 for all ages)



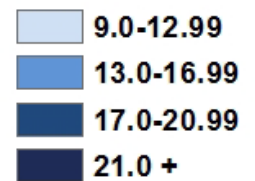
*2015 provisional data as of Dec 2, 2016
Analysis by Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

North Carolina Violent Death
NC VDRS
Reporting System

North Carolina
Injury & Violence
PREVENTION Branch



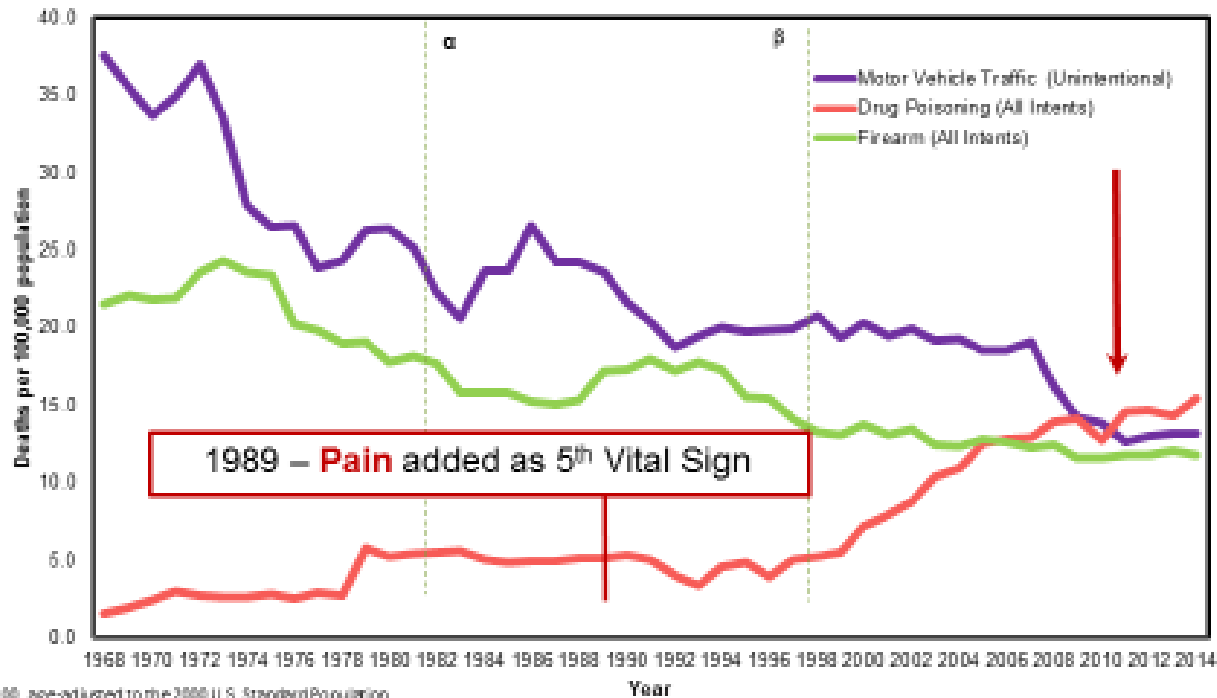
Suicide Rate per 100,000



Homicide in the Middle District: Circumstances, NC-VDRS, 2010-2014

- 677 (86.5%) of the 783 homicides have circumstance data recorded.
- Most homicides (71.9%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 27.2 percent of homicides.
- For homicide incidents where the suspect(s) were identified, the relationship of the victim to the suspect was known (current or former spouse/boyfriend/girlfriend, family, friend or acquaintance) more frequently for female (85.9%) than male (63.8%) victims.

Death Rates* for Three Selected Causes of Injury, North Carolina, 1968-2014



National Vital Statistics System, <http://wonder.cdc.gov>, multiple cause dataset
 Source: Death files, 1968-2014, CDC WONDER
 Analysis by Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit



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Intimate Partner Violence in the Middle District: NC-VDRS, 2010-2014

- **21.3%** of homicides in the Middle District with known circumstances were associated with intimate partner violence (IPV).
- Of the 152 identified IPV-related deaths, **144(94.7%)** were homicides.
- More than one half (**55.7%**) of all female homicides were IPV related, while less than a tenth (**9.3%**) of all male homicides were IPV-related.



Analysis by Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit



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PRESS RELEASES

From February 2, 2017

LEE COUNTY MAN SENTENCED

Greensboro, N.C. – A Lee County man was recently sentenced in federal court, Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina Sandra Hairston announced today.

Christopher Lastett Thompson was sentenced today by United States District Judge N. Carlton Tilley, Jr, to 27 months' imprisonment, a 3 year term of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment fee. Thompson had pleaded guilty on October 4, 2016, to the charge of possession of a firearm by a person under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.

The conviction referenced above is the result of close cooperation between the members of the Lee County Project Safe Neighborhoods ("PSN") coalition. PSN is a nationwide gun and violent crime strategy designed to protect communities. The Lee County PSN coalition is comprised of the Broadway Police Department, the Sanford Police Department, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, the Department of Public Safety Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice (probation), the State Bureau of Investigation, the Lee County District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the United States Attorney's Office, and many other community members and agencies.

The case was investigated by the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol and the Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney JoAnna G. McFadden.

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From February 10, 2017

ROWAN COUNTY MAN SENTENCED UNDER FEDERAL FIREARMS LAW

Greensboro, N.C. – A Rowan County man was sentenced on January 18, 2017, for the possession of ammunition by a convicted felon, announced Acting United States Attorney Sandra J. Hairston.

David Jumar White, of Salisbury, N.C., was sentenced by the Honorable Thomas D. Schroeder, United States District Judge, to imprisonment for 55 months, followed by 3 years supervised release and a \$100.00 special assessment. On October 4, 2016, White pleaded guilty to a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), which makes it a federal crime for a previously convicted felon to possess a firearm or ammunition.

On November 13, 2015, White and three others were observed running from an area where over 20 gunshots had been heard. The four subjects were stopped by Salisbury police officers near the location of the gunshots. White was identified as the person responsible for the shooting. When officers searched White subsequent to his arrest, they found a single spent 9 millimeter shell casing in his pants pocket. A 9mm pistol and other shell casings were discovered nearby. White had several previous felony convictions, including a 2012 conviction for assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury.

This case was investigated by the Salisbury Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and Homeland Security Investigations. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Terry Meinecke.

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From February 17, 2017

Former North Carolina State Senator Pleads Guilty

Represented Cabarrus and Union Counties

Winston-Salem, N.C. – A former North Carolina State Senator pled guilty to federal fraud and tax charges today, announced Acting United States Attorney Sandra Hairston.

Fletcher Lee Hartsell, Jr., who represented parts of Cabarrus and Union Counties as a State Senator from 1991 until 2016, pled guilty today before United States District Judge Thomas D. Schroeder to one count of mail fraud and two counts of filing false tax returns. According to court documents, Hartsell engaged in a scheme to defraud and to obtain money through false pretenses by soliciting funds through the mail for the Hartsell for NC State Senator Committee, using those funds for personal goods and services not authorized under state campaign finance laws, and then misrepresenting such expenditures on filed campaign disclosure reports. Hartsell further made knowing and willful false statements in federal income tax returns filed both in his personal capacity and on behalf of a corporation he co-managed.

“Transparency, honesty, and integrity on the part of elected officials allow citizens to make informed decisions about their campaign contributions and at the ballot box. This case should serve as a reminder that those occupying positions of public trust will be held accountable under the same criminal laws as their constituents,” said Acting United States Attorney Hairston.

“By authorizing and directing campaign funds to pay for personal items and services, Hartsell caused false partnership and individual income tax returns to be filed,” said Michael C. Daniels, IRS-CI’s Acting Special Agent in Charge. “IRS-CI helps ensure that everyone, including public officials, comply with the same tax obligations as the citizens they serve.”

“Senator Fletcher Hartsell degraded our country's democratic process by spending campaign money as if it were from his own personal piggy bank. Hartsell paid for basic expenses including haircuts and lawn care with money that belonged to the American people. The FBI will work tirelessly to ensure any elected official who abuses their power is held accountable for their wrongdoing,” said John Strong, Special Agent-in-Charge of the FBI in North Carolina.

Hartsell faces a maximum penalty of 20 years confinement and a fine of up to \$250,000.00. Sentencing is scheduled for May 16, 2017 in Winston-Salem.

The investigation is being handled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations with assistance from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney JoAnna G. McFadden.

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From February 23, 2017

NORTH CAROLINA MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FAILING TO PAY EMPLOYMENT TAXES

WASHINGTON – A North Carolina businessman was sentenced today to 15 months in prison for failing to pay over employment taxes, announced Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart M. Goldberg of the Justice Department’s Tax Division and Acting U.S. Attorney Sandra Hairston for the Middle District of North Carolina.

According to court documents, Paul Harvey Boone, 54, of Hillsborough, North Carolina, owned and operated Boone Audio Inc. in Burlington, North Carolina. For most of 2008 through 2011, Boone used company funds for personal expenses while failing to pay over the employment taxes withheld from his employees' wages. Boone also failed to file his individual income tax returns and pay personal income taxes for tax years 2008 through 2011.

"Paul Boone's prison sentence serves as a reminder to employers that willfully failing to comply with employment tax obligations is a crime," said Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Goldberg. "We are committed to investigating, prosecuting and seeking incarceration of employers who use their employees' funds to line their own pockets."

"IRS – Criminal Investigation (CI) realizes the damaging consequences caused by Boone's failure to pay over employment taxes," said Acting Special Agent in Charge Michael C. Daniels of IRS-CI. "It results in the loss of tax revenue to the U.S. government and in the loss of future social security or Medicare benefits for the employees. Those who fail to do so will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted."

In addition to the term of prison imposed, Boone was ordered to serve three years of supervised release and to pay restitution to the IRS in the amount of \$385,610.

Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Goldberg and Acting U.S. Attorney Hairston commended special agents of IRS-CI, who conducted the investigation, and Trial Attorneys Lauren Castaldi and Nathan Brooks of the Tax Division and Assistant U.S. Attorney Anand Ramaswamy of the Middle District of North Carolina, who prosecuted the case.

Additional information about the Tax Division and its enforcement efforts may be found on the division's [website](#).

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DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE USE THE CONTACTS IN THE MESSAGE OR CALL THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT 202-514-2007.

BJA Releases New Mental Health Toolkit

After engaging in a national dialogue with key stakeholders throughout the law enforcement and mental health fields, BJA released its [Police-Mental Health Collaboration \(PMHC\) Toolkit](#). The PMHC Toolkit will serve as the comprehensive, go-to source for any information related to this very important collaboration effort. The toolkit provides resources for law enforcement agencies to partner with mental health providers to effectively respond to and manage calls for service while advancing safety for everyone.

Smart Policing Collaboration Principles Released

The Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) has released the [Smart Policing Collaboration Principles document](#). This product provides a high-level overview of police-community collaboration principles developed by SPI in cooperation with the BJA Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Program and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). BJA conducted a series of three workshops over the past year examining challenges and successes in police-community collaboration. This document represents the integration of ideas generated at all three workshops in a series of Collaboration Principles, which are fundamental guidelines for how local jurisdictions (police agencies and communities alike) should approach police-community collaboration.



2017 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Theme Artwork Now Available

We are pleased to present the 2017 National Crime Victims' Rights Week [\(NCVRW\) Resource Guide theme artwork, theme posters, and web artwork](#), designed to help communities and victim assistance providers promote awareness of crime victim issues.

View and download the 2017 NCVRW artwork today, available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

[Sign up for the NCVRW mailing list](#) and be notified when the complete Resource Guide is available.

[Visit the NCVRW website](#) for additional information.

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