

Deputies with the Buncombe/Henderson County joint Highway Interdiction Team seized 1082 pounds of marijuana and over \$1.1 million dollars in US currency during a traffic stop on I-26 in Buncombe County on Thursday January 28th. The narcotic seizure has a street value of \$2,596,000 and the \$1,100,000 cash seizure is believed to be the largest narcotic related cash seizure ever in Western North Carolina.

Deputies charged Andrew Curtis Vanover, 62, of Millsburg, Kentucky with trafficking marijuana, and maintaining a vehicle for the purpose of a controlled substance. In addition, deputies charged Jose Alfrado Flores, 33 of Mission Texas with trafficking marijuana and maintaining a vehicle for the purpose of a controlled substance. They are both being held in the Buncombe County Detention Facility under a \$1,000,000 secured bond.

The joint task force was created by Buncombe County Sheriff Van Duncan and Henderson County Sheriff Rick Davis in March of 2009 as a way to curb criminal activity through Buncombe and Henderson County by way of I-40 and I-26. During the 2009 calendar year the unit was responsible for narcotic seizures over \$2,000,000 and cash seizures over \$215,000 and apprehended several wanted fugitives.



Andrew Curtis Vanover, 62, of Millsburg, Kentucky



Jose Alfredo Flores, 33 of Mission Texas