



CARTERET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Sheriff Asa B. Buck, III
304 Craven Street, Beaufort, NC 28516
CarteretSheriff.com

OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

Nick Wilson, Public Information Officer
Email: nick.wilson@carteretcountync.gov
Office: 252.728.8400; ext. 8810



Carteret County man arrested on child pornography charges

Release Date: June 10, 2021

CARTERET COUNTY, NC – Detectives with the Carteret County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division arrested a Carteret County man Thursday morning on charges related to the sexual exploitation of minors.

The suspect, Caleb Samuel Keene, 21, of Newport, NC, is charged with five felony counts of second-degree sexual exploitation of a minor and five felony counts of third-degree sexual exploitation of a minor.

Keene was arrested as the result of an undercover Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigation. Detectives from the Sheriff's Office ICAC Task Force, along with the Pine Knoll Shores Police Department, began the investigation after discovering the suspect was in possession of and distributing images and videos of child exploitation online.



Caleb Samuel Keene

The investigation resulted in the execution of a search warrant at a residence in Newport, NC on Thursday morning. Detectives took Keene into custody and equipment used to facilitate the crime was seized as evidence. The ICAC Task Force was assisted by the Newport Police Department, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Naval Criminal Investigations Services, and Homeland Security Investigations.

Keene is currently in the Carteret County Jail under a \$100,000 secured bond. His first court appearance was scheduled for Thursday morning.

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