

## **Office of Ross County Sheriff**

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GEORGE W. LAVENDER, JR., SHERIFF ROSS COUNTY-CHILLICOTHE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER 28 NORTH PAINT STREET CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601

## **News Release**

Sheriff Lavender reports that his office was called 266 Kinzer Road in Bainbridge, Ohio on 02/21/2013 at approximately 12:30 am in reference to a possible burglary.

A neighbor called the Sheriff's Office and reported seeing subjects inside the residence at 266 Kinzer Road which was supposed to be vacant.

Deputies arrived and found 31 year old Nicholas Babbs and 29 year old Jonathon Bray inside the residence. Deputies made contact with the owner of the residence and found that neither one of the listed subjects had permission to be at the residence; the owner confirmed the residence was supposed to be unoccupied.

Deputies at the residence detected "a strong odor" coming from the residence. The owner gave permission to search which revealed equipment consistent with the manufacture of methamphetamines.

The U.S. 23 Major Crimes Task Force along with deputies from The Pike County Sheriff Richard Henderson's office responded to the residence to process the possible meth lab, several pieces of evidence were collected and are being processed by B.C.I.'s Crime Lab.

Mr. Babbs and Mr. Bray were charged with burglary and transported to The Ross County Jail and are being held pending their arraignment on the charges. Additional charges are pending the lab results from B.C.I.

Sheriff Lavender continues to encourage community involvement as is evidenced from this incident where a concerned citizen contacted law enforcement. Further Sheriff Lavender wishes to recognize the excellent work, cooperation, and collaboration between his office, The U.S. 23 Major Crimes Task Force, and The Pike County Sheriff's in an effort to keep the community safe.