

NEWPORT POLICE

Jeff T. Clark ~ Chief of Police
www.newportpolice-nc.org
255 Howard Blvd. Newport, N.C. 28570

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 10, 2015

**Contact: Capt. Keith Lewis
klewis@newportpolice-nc.org**

On Monday 02/09/2015, Newport Police were contacted by corporate representatives of E.J. Pope & Son, Inc., regarding potential embezzlement at one of its Newport based locations. An extensive investigation ensued and Newport Police Detective Michael Alberti reviewed numerous records and transactions with corporate officials. As a result of this investigation it was determined that the store manager of the Handy Mart located at 7065 Hwy 70 Newport, John Joseph "JJ" Pavel Jr., had embezzled in excess of \$130,000 from the company over a period of approximately one and a half years. Pavel was subsequently charged with "Embezzlement in Excess of \$100,000", a Class C Felony (G.S. 14-90), and jailed in the Carteret County Detention Facility under a \$100,000 secured bond. Pavel is scheduled for a Felony 1st Appearance in Carteret County District Court later this morning.

Pavel has worked for E.J. Pope & Son, Inc. at the Newport based Handy Mart for approximately three years and was promoted to store manager in May of 2012. The embezzlement occurred during the period between July of 2013 and January of 2015. Pavel, 26 years old, and from Howard Rd. in Newport, has no prior criminal record.

Corporate contact for E.J. Pope & Son is:
Mark Bryan, PHR
VP Human Resources & Risk Management
1092 N. Breazeale Ave
Mt. Olive, NC
919-658-6566



John Joseph Pavel Jr.