



MITCHELL COUNTY

Dear Mitchell County Community,

It has come to our attention that a rumor circulating on social media suggests the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office stole \$45,000 worth of generators. We want to set the record straight and provide the facts behind this unfortunate misinformation.

Here's what actually happened:

In the wake of Hurricane Helene, Bowman Middle School served as a vital emergency hub for our county. Due to the severe flooding, it housed the Sheriff's Office and became a distribution site for essential supplies, including generators. The generators were flown in on a Chinook helicopter, coordinated by a formal request (attached below) from our Emergency Management team on October 14. Upon arrival, they were stored securely at Bowman, a Mitchell County property.

Our Sheriff's Office played a key role in distributing these generators to our citizens who are elderly, special needs, families with children 2 and under, and those expecting power outages for months in our hardest hit areas. These deputies, trusted members of our community, were uniquely equipped to navigate our region and provide support.

Unfortunately, the claim that generators were stolen stems from a misunderstanding by an out-of-town individual attempting to gain attention through inaccurate reporting. While we deeply appreciate the efforts of volunteers who traveled to assist, it is critical to rely on accurate information.

The facts are clear:

1. No generators were stolen.
2. The 40 generators were requested formally through NC Emergency Management, with the necessary documentation in place.
3. They were transported to and stored on county property under the supervision of the National Guard.

We are incredibly grateful for the hard work of our Sheriff's Office, who have gone above and beyond during this crisis, and for the patience and resilience of our community during these trying times.

Misinformation can spread quickly, especially during emergencies. We encourage everyone to verify claims before sharing them and to support those who are working tirelessly for our county's recovery.

Thank you for your continued trust and cooperation.

Allen Cook - Mitchell County Manager

Handwritten signature of Allen Cook in black ink.

Donald Street - Mitchell County Sheriff

Handwritten signature of Donald Street in black ink.

Kolby Silver - Mitchell County Emergency Director

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North Carolina Emergency Management



Requester Information

Record # 321061

Name Kolby.Silver **Agency** Mitchell County **Initial Date/Time** 10/14/2024 4:17:18 PM
Email mitchellem@mitchellcountync.gov
Priority High **Entry Type** Resource Request

Assignment Information

ICS 204 Required?

Status Complete **Branch** Western **County-to-County Mutual Aid** Yes

Assigned To Lead Air Operations **Assigned To User**

Notes Completed by NCNG, tail-08886, CH-47, callsign-886, hours-1.4, fuel ga-480, other commodities lbs-9000.

Past Notes Bowman Middle LZ: 17S LV 95923 85429
Updated by Alex.Murn at 10/15/2024 6:56:11

Received and processed by NCNG
Updated by Christopher.Pope at 10/14/2024 18:0:38

Accepted by NCNG Air-Army National Guard
Updated by Michael.Young at 10/14/2024 17:54:29

Assigned to lead. GH
Updated by Greg.Hardee at 10/14/2024 17:19:28

Resource Request

NIMS Group Search and Rescue **NIMS Definition** Helicopter **NIMS Type**

Need By Date/Time 10/14/2024 4:17:52 PM **Approx. Return Date/Time**

Quantity 1 **Size**

Resource Use We request a flight for Samaritans purse for 40 generator delivery. PU location is Boone Airport. LZ will be delivered to bowman middle school LZ at 36.01044 -82.05726

Will Be Provided By Requestor

Lodging No

Fuel No

Meals No



North Carolina Emergency Management



Resource Delivery Location

Type New Location

Point-of-Contact kolby.silver **Phone #** 8283850911

Facility/Location Bowman middle School Football field **Address** 410 South Mitchell Ave

City Bakersville **State** North Carolina **Zip** 28705

Latitude (decimal) 36.010444195015 **Longitude (decimal)** -82.155732755622

Latitude (DD MM SS) 36° 62' 39.9102" **Longitude (DD MM SS)** -82° 93' 26.3792" **USNG** 17SLV9584885724

County Mitchell **Requesting Agency** Mitchell County

Requestor Name Kolby Silver **Requestor Phone #** +18283850911 **Requestor Email** mitchellem@mitchellcountync.gov

Additional Locations

History

Modified By	Modified By Position	MAC Status	MAC Status Date Time	Assigned To Lead	Assigned To User	Assigned To Log User
Austin.Wiggins	Air-Army National Guard	Complete	10/15/2024 18:07:11	Air Operations		Air-Army National Guard
Alex.Murn	Air-Army National Guard	Assigned To User	10/15/2024 05:56:11	Air Operations		Air-Army National Guard
Christopher.Pope	Air-Army National Guard	Assigned To User	10/14/2024 17:00:38	Air Operations		Air-Army National Guard
Michael.Young	Air Operations	Assigned To User	10/14/2024 16:54:29	Air Operations		Air-Army National Guard
Greg.Hardee	RCC Western MAC	Assigned To Lead	10/14/2024 16:19:28	Air Operations		
Kolby.Silver	Mitchell County	Assigned To RCC	10/14/2024 16:18:47	RCC Western MAC		*