



# Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway  
Newport, Oregon 97365

## NPD MEDIA RELEASE

02/20/2012 10:00 a.m.

**Incident:** Traffic Crash/DUII Arrest **Case#: 12N-00281**

**Location:** Hwy 101 and SW Hurbert Street

**Date/Time:** 02/18/2012 at 8:51 a.m.

**Suspect:** Eddie Laverne Bowdish, age 53 of Newport

**Details:** On Saturday, 02/18/2012, at about 8:50 a.m., Newport Police Officers and the Newport Fire Department were dispatched to a reported traffic crash involving multiple vehicles at the intersection of Hwy 101 and SW Hurbert Street. Upon arrival, officers found three cars involved, two of which had been rear-ended by the third car while they were stopped at a red light on Hwy 101. None of the drivers reported being injured.

During the investigation, it was learned the vehicle operated by Eddie Laverne Bowdish of Newport had rear-ended the other two cars after he failed to stop for the red light on Hwy 101. Bowdish told officers that he had "blacked out" prior to the accident, and woke to find himself involved in the crash. Bowdish was displaying signs of impairment, and admitted to officers he had been drinking alcohol, using prescribed pain killers, and using both marijuana and methamphetamine prior to the crash. Bowdish failed field sobriety tests, and was arrested for DUII. Officers found a small amount of methamphetamine and marijuana in his vehicle prior to it being towed from the scene.

ODOT assisted diverting traffic on Hwy 101 for more than an hour.

Bowdish was lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on charges of DUII, Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, Reckless Driving, and two counts of Recklessly Endangering. His bail was set at \$110,000. He was also cited for Driving While Suspended, and Driving Uninsured.

**###**

**Information Released By: Sgt Tom Simpson 541-574-3348**