



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Cramerton Police to Host Free Shredding Event**

The Cramerton Police Department and Shred-It Charlotte are teaming up to sponsor a free Document Shredding Event that will take place on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Cramer Marketplace Shopping Center and is free to the public for the destruction of household and small business documents. Shred-it, a Securit company, is the world's leading on site document destruction company.

Police officers and Shred-it employees will be on hand to accept personal documents that people want destroyed in Shred-it's secure on site mobile shredders. In addition, information will be available to assist in the protection of personal identity information that is susceptible to theft and misuse.

Nearly 10 million people in the United States, approximately 300,000 North Carolinians, are victims of identity theft each year. On average, victims of identity theft spend \$800 and 175 hours over 23 months attempting to repair their reputations and erase thousands of dollars in fraudulent charges.

"We are very committed to helping prevent people from becoming victims of consumer fraud, which continues to be one of the fastest growing crimes and affects millions Americans each year," said Brook Hobgood, a Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist, and general manager of Shred-it Charlotte. "We urge the public to take advantage of this important community service by destroying their personal documents in a safe and secure manner."

"It is not unusual for Cramerton Officers to take two to three reports a week for identity theft. These crimes are very time consuming and difficult to investigate and often result in being unable to file criminal charges. This event is an excellent opportunity for the public to prevent this type of crime before it occurs and I would certainly encourage citizens to take advantage of it," said Greg Ratchford, Cramerton's Chief of Police.

More information on identity theft prevention can be found by visiting [www.cramertonpd.org](http://www.cramertonpd.org) or [www.noscamnc.gov](http://www.noscamnc.gov). Additional information about Shred-It Charlotte can be obtained by visiting [www.shredit.com](http://www.shredit.com). Questions concerning the free Document Shredding Event can be directed to Officer Corey Debbold at 704.824.7964.