



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 • www.gulfsheriff.com
850-227-1115 • 850-639-5717 • Fax 850-227-2097

Contact: Capt. Chris Buchanan
Telephone: 850-227-1115
Email: cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov

MEDIA RELEASE
December 22, 2014

GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

DECEMBER 15, 2014 – DECEMBER 21, 2014

On Monday, December 15th, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) Criminal Investigation Division received a complaint regarding a case involving the uttering of forged checks. Investigator L. Dickey was assigned the case. The victim reported that approximately \$2,000 in forged checks was written out of an account. A suspect was developed in the case and criminal charges are forthcoming.

On December 15th, Rodney D. Johnson (37) was served an out of county warrant from Okaloosa County. Johnson was wanted by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office for Dealing in Stolen Property. He was held at the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF) to await extradition.

On December 15th, the GCSO received a complaint regarding the theft of two lawn mowers and a tree stand from the 400 block of Mitchell Road in Wewahitchka. Deputy M. Layfield responded to the call. The complainant reported the incident took place at some point during the day. The total value of the items stolen is approximately \$1,000. Investigator L. Dickey continues to investigate the case.

On December 15th, Deputy P. Williams responded to the 2800 block of Victoria Avenue in Highland View after the GCSO received a 911 call regarding an unknown disturbance. At the conclusion of the investigation, Deputy Williams arrested Walter B. Quay (44) for Child Abuse and Resisting an Officer Without Violence. Quay was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and conditionally released.

On Tuesday, December 16th, the GCSO received a complaint regarding a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Florida Avenue in Red Bull Island. Deputy M. Layfield and Deputy S. Ferrell responded to the call. At the conclusion of the investigation, Deputy Layfield arrested Brandon W. Gay (22) for Domestic Battery. He was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and conditionally released.

On Wednesday, December 17th, Sgt. J. Williams responded to the 8200 block of U.S. Highway 98 on St. Joe Beach in reference to a shoplifter. The businesses employee observed a subject place merchandise in a purse and then leave the store. The merchandise was recovered and the subject identified. The business did not wish to cooperate and file criminal charges.

On Thursday, December 18th, Deputy M. Garrett arrested Marcus D. Hodges (36) on a Writ of Bodily Attachment for Child Support. Hodges was transported to the GCDF where he remains in custody on a \$750 purge.

On December 18th, the GCSO received a call regarding a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Richards Avenue in Wewahitchka. Deputy J. Oquendo and Deputy B. Smith arrived on scene. Interviews and an investigation into the complaint were conducted. At the conclusion of the investigation Joni L. Gainnie (37) was arrested for Domestic Battery and transported to the GCDF. She was later first appeared and conditionally released.

On Friday, December 19th, Sgt. R. Burkett was on patrol just north of White City when he observed a vehicle northbound on State Road (SR) 71 speeding. The vehicle was traveling 77 mph in a posted 60 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped and contact was made with the driver Carlos Escobar Fuentes (32). A citation for speed was issued. During the stop Sgt. Burkett learned that Escobar was operating the vehicle without a driver's license. He was arrested and transported to the GCDF. Escobar was first appeared and released on his own recognizance.

On December 19th, the GCSO received a complaint regarding a residential burglary. Sgt. C. Dixon responded to the call in the 6100 block of County Road 30-A. The complainant reported the theft of two televisions from the residence. The GCSO continues to investigate.

On December 19th, Deputy P. Williams responded to the 100 block of Highway 98 in Port St. Joe to assist the Police Department with a domestic disturbance. Deputy Williams arrested Clifford F. Martin (28). Martin provided a false social security number during the investigation to Deputy Williams. At the time of his arrest he was also found to possess marijuana. Martin was transported to the GCDF where he was charged with False Information to a Law Enforcement Officer, Possession of Less than Twenty Grams of Marijuana and Tampering with Evidence. He was later first appeared and released on a \$5,000 bond.

On Saturday, December 20th, Deputy P. Williams conducted a traffic stop on Highway 98 and 2nd Street in Port St. Joe. The driver of the vehicle, Fredrick L. Cummings (46), was operating the vehicle on a suspended license and was wanted by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation. Cummings was arrested and transported to the GCDF for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (DWLS/R) and the out of county warrant.

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan
Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison