



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 16, 2015 – FEBRUARY 22, 2015

On Monday, February 16th, Investigator L. Dickey assisted the Town of Palm Beach Police Department after the agency requested assistance with the execution of search warrant on an inmate at Gulf Correctional Institution in Wewahitchka. The agency investigated a burglary in their jurisdiction and developed information which led them to a suspect in custody at the prison. Investigator Dickey obtained and executed a search warrant for DNA.

On Tuesday, February 17th, Deputy P. Baxley served and arrested Adam W. Hamm (31) in the 1000 block of Woodward Avenue in Port St. Joe. Hamm was arrested on a Writ of Bodily Attachment for child support. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On Wednesday, February 18th, Deputy P. Baxley conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle which was driven erratically. The stop took place in the 200 block of West River Road in Wewahitchka. The driver, Brenda G. Gortman (59), was contacted and presented herself as extremely nervous. Gortman gave Deputy Baxley permission to search the vehicle, which yielded two small baggies of a crystal like substance, which field tested positive for methamphetamine, and drug paraphernalia. She was arrested and transported to the GCDF. Gortman, who is currently on drug offender probation for the Sale of Cocaine, Sale of Meth, Possession of GHB, and Possession of Controlled Substance was charged with Possession of Meth, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Violation of Probation.

On February 18th, the GCSO traveled to the Bay County Jail to extradite Demetrice L. Jones (26) to Gulf County. Jones was arrested by the Bay County Sheriff's Office on four active warrants for the Sale of Crack Cocaine within 1,000 Feet of a Church. He was booked into the GCDF.

On Thursday, February 19th, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a complaint regarding a stolen vessel in the 1900 block of State Road 30-A in Simmons

Bayou. Deputy D. Sanders responded to investigate. A 22 foot fiberglass skiff was reported stolen from the location. It was hauled on a homemade single axle galvanized trailer. The boat was green with a 70 horsepower Yamaha four stroke outboard. The boat had an aluminum center console tower. The total value was estimated at \$15,000. Investigator L. Greenwood continues to investigate the case.

On February 19th, Lt. P. Beasley and Investigator L. Dickey recovered approximately \$930 of stolen fishing gear. The property was discovered stolen from the 100 block of Acklins Island Drive on Cape San Blas, but not yet reported. The owner was notified and was able to identify the items.

On February 19th, Investigator J. Hanson, along with Deputy S. Ferrell and Deputy D. Sanders, executed a felony arrest warrant on April D. Strickland (42) in the 300 block of Lake Alice Park Drive in Wewahitchka. Strickland is on probation for two counts of the Sale of Meth. She was arrested for Violation of Probation and transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, February 20th, a theft of a boat trailer tag was reported to Deputy C. Harvey at the GCSO. The theft occurred in the 200 block of Narvaez Street on St. Joe Beach. The tag was believed to have been stolen during the past week.

On February 20th, the GCSO received a 911 call from the 300 block of Dolphin Street in Highland View. The caller reported hearing a domestic disturbance at a neighboring residence. Deputy B. Smith and Deputy J. Oquendo responded to the call. The investigation concluded with the arrest of Jennifer D. Anderson (39) for Domestic Battery. She was transported to the GCDF.

On February 20th, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a structure fire in the 100 block of Foxchase Drive in Howard Creek. The caller stated they believed someone was still inside. Sgt. J. Murnan responded to the scene, along with the Howard Creek, White City, and Wewahitchka Volunteer Fire Departments. The residence was engulfed in flames once emergency personnel arrived and took approximately an hour to extinguish. An occupant of the residence was found deceased. The State Fire Marshall's Office was called to investigate the fire. The identity of the victim is not being released pending a positive identification from the Medical Examiner's Office and the proper notification to the next of kin.

On Saturday, February 21st, the GCSO received a complaint regarding the burglary of a home under construction. Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the 6100 block of Cape San Blas Road and contacted the complainant. Fourteen boxes of vinyl plank flooring, valued at approximately \$420, were stolen from the location.

On Sunday, February 22nd, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a physical disturbance in the 100 block of Saturn Drive in Port St. Joe. Deputy B. Smith responded to the call. Kendrick J. Byrd (32) was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. He was transported to the GCDF.

From February 16th through February 22nd the Communications Division at the GCSO logged a total of 34 calls for the Port St. Joe Police Department, 47 calls for EMS, 11 calls for other department/agencies and 10 calls for Animal Control.

From February 16th through February 22nd the GCSO logged the following activity: Security/Zone Check, 125; Traffic Stop, 63; Civil Paper Service, 30; Information, 18; Field Contact, 11; Alarm, 6; Reckless Driver, 5; Requests for Security Checks, 4; Agency Assist, 3; Unknown Disturbance, 3; Verbal Disturbance, 2; Abandoned Vehicle, 2; Residential Burglary, 2; Suspicious Vehicle, 2; Traffic Accident, 2; Warrant Arrest, 2; Animal Bite, 1; Deceased Person, 1; Disabled Motor Vehicle, 1; Domestic Disturbance, 2; Drunk Pedestrian, 1; Escort, 1; Lost/Stolen Tag, 1; Harassing Phone Call, 1; Possession of Controlled Substance, 1; Prisoner Transport, 1; Sexual Offender Reregistration, 1; Stolen Tag, 1; Stolen Boat, 1; Suspicious Activity, 1; and Suspicious Person, 1.

If you have any information on the aforementioned cases, or any tips concerning a wanted person or suspicious activity, please contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office at 850-227-1115 or contact Crime Stoppers at 850-785-TIPS.

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan

Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison