



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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PRESS RELEASE
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DOMESTIC RELATED SHOOTING INCIDENT UNDER INVESTIGATION

The Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a 911 call at approximately 8:24 PM (Central Time) on Wednesday, March 18th, regarding a shooting at 201 Sunset Drive in Wewahitchka. Deputy P. Williams arrived on scene and located the victim, Michael Eugene Burke (54), laying in the front yard of the residence with an apparent gunshot wound to the head. Emergency Medical Services personnel arrived and transported M. Burke to Bay Medical Center where he is currently listed in critical condition.

Through further investigation a suspect was developed and identified as the victim's brother, Steven Victor Burke (57) of Wewahitchka. Witnesses heard gun shots and observed the suspect's vehicle, a white 1999 Nissan Maxima, leave the residence. S. Burke later returned to the scene and was taken into custody. His vehicle was located approximately five miles south of the scene. Deputies located a firearm, believed to be used in the crime, hidden in some bushes near the vehicle. Investigators obtained and executed two separate search warrants for the residence and vehicle, which were processed by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Crime Scene Unit.

Investigators believe the shooting is the result of an ongoing dispute between the two. It was also discovered that the suspect had threatened to shoot the victim within the last week. At the time of the arrest, the suspect had what appeared to be blood on his skin and clothing. S. Burke was booked into the Gulf County Detention Facility and charged with Aggravated Battery with a Firearm (Domestic). He was first appeared and is held without bond. The investigation is still considered active pending the forensic analysis of evidence collected.

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