



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY SUSPECT ARRESTED

Gulf County Sheriff Mike Harrison announces the arrest of Anthony L. "Tony" Malerba, Jr., (20). Malerba was arrested today on a warrant for Burglary at the conclusion of an investigation which began Tuesday.

On May 26, 2015, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call regarding a residential burglary in progress in the 300 block of Bay Street in St. Joe Beach. The resident returned home, after leaving for 45 minutes, and noticed a red car parked in the driveway. While approaching the home, the caller observed a subject walking around inside through a window and that the rear door was standing open. The resident entered the home and discovered it in disarray. While exiting to locate the subject, the resident found the subject in the front yard where he confronted him. The subject got into the red car parked in the driveway and fled the scene. The resident pursued the subject, in his own vehicle, down Alabama Avenue. The subject turned around and the resident used his vehicle to block the roadway. The subject then collided with the resident's vehicle. The crash caused the bumper of the subject's vehicle to fall off. Investigators were able to identify the subject using the vehicle identification number found on the bumper.

Inside the home, the contents of drawers and cabinets had been emptied and left on the floors. Personal property was stolen during the burglary. The vehicle used to flee the residence was located abandoned at the end of Americus Avenue on St. Joe Beach. Based on information obtained from the vehicle and the description obtained from the victim in the case, Malerba was developed as the suspect. A warrant was obtained and executed on Malerba this afternoon. Malerba is currently on felony probation for Criminal Mischief. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility. Malerba is charged with Burglary of an Unoccupied Structure and Violation of Probation.

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan
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