



***Gulf County Sheriff's Office***

***Sheriff Mike Harrison***

1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 • [www.gulfsheriff.com](http://www.gulfsheriff.com)  
850-227-1115 • 850-639-5717 • Fax 850-227-2097

Contact: Chris Buchanan  
Telephone: 850-227-1115  
Email: [cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov](mailto:cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov)

MEDIA RELEASE  
October 19, 2015

### **GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY**

OCTOBER 12, 2015 – OCTOBER 18, 2015

On Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a call in the 400 block of Texas Street in Wewahitchka regarding criminal mischief. Deputy J. Hanson responded to investigate the complaint. The complainant discovered their vehicle keyed. The total estimated damage to the vehicle was \$1,000. Deputy Hanson continues to investigate.

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, Deputy J. Hanson was on patrol in the area of State Road (SR) 71 south of Wewahitchka when he observed a vehicle traveling 66 mph in a posted 45 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped and contact was made with the driver, Laramie W. Whitten (23). During the stop, Deputy Hanson deployed his partner K-9 Marco to conduct an open air sniff around the vehicle. K-9 Marco alerted to the presence of illegal narcotic odor and a search of the vehicle was conducted. During the search, a concealed firearm was found under the driver's seat. Whitten was placed under arrest for Possession of a Concealed Weapon. Whitten was also charged with Violation of an Injunction for Protection against Domestic Violence after it was determined he was issued an injunction and ordered not to possess a firearm.

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the GCSO traveled to the Bay County Jail to extradite Angel K. Julius (37) and Jonathan C. Gates (31). Julius was wanted by the GCSO for two counts of Grand Theft, sixteen counts of Uttering a Forged Instrument, sixteen counts of Obtaining Property by False Personation and one count of Exploitation of the Elderly. The charges on Julius were brought forth by the Port St. Joe Police Department. Gates was wanted by the GCSO on a warrant for Violation of Probation on his original charges of Burglary of an Unoccupied Structure and the Sale of Methamphetamine. Both were transported to the GCDF.

On Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Sandra D. Kelsoe (27) turned herself in at the GCSO on a warrant for Violation of Probation. Kelsoe is on probation for the Sale of Cocaine. She was turned over to the staff at the GCDF.

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, Douglas W. Macrae, Jr., (43) registered as a sexual offender at the GCSO. Macrae's permanent address is 519 Lake Alice Park Drive in Wewahitchka. He is a white male with brown hair and brown eyes. Macrae is 43 years old, 5' 07" and weighs approximately 175 lbs. More information is available on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Sexual

Offender Website. A link to the website is available on [www.gulfsheriff.com](http://www.gulfsheriff.com) under the resources tab.

On Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Deputy D. Sanders conducted a traffic stop in the area of County Road (CR) 386 and Meadowview Road west of Wewahitchka. The vehicle, a semi-tractor pulling a log trailer, was clocked on radar traveling 77 mph in a posted 60 mph zone. The driver, Ernest C. Myers, Jr. (38), was determined to have a suspended driver's license. He was placed under arrest and transported to the GCDF for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (DWLS/R).

On Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, Deputy P. Williams and Investigator Ferrell arrested Joseph W. Sketoe (39) in the 100 block of Rhodes Drive in Wewahitchka. Sketoe was wanted for Battery (Domestic). The case originated October 10<sup>th</sup>, after the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a physical disturbance in the 300 block of Central Avenue north of Wewahitchka.

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Deputy D. Sanders responded to the Wewahitchka Substation to meet a complainant regarding the theft of a firearm. The theft occurred in the 300 block of Chipola Avenue in Wewahitchka. The firearm, a stainless Ruger 357 Magnum revolver valued at approximately \$500, was stolen from within the residence. Investigator L. Greenwood continues to investigate.

On Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, Deputy M. Layfield assisted the Port St. Joe Police Department in the service of an arrest warrant in the 100 block of Betty Drive in Port St. Joe. Deputy Layfield arrested Arion C. Ward (22) on a warrant for Grand Theft. The case was investigated by the Port St. Joe Police Department. Ward was transported to the GCDF.

On Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a residential burglary in the 100 block of Sunray Court in Beacon Hill. Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the call to investigate. The complainants reported they returned from the beach and discovered someone had entered the residence. Four separate pursues were stolen from the residence. Deputy Desrosier continues to investigate a lead in the case.

On Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. J. Williams conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of U.S. Highway 98 and Columbus Street in St. Joe Beach. The driver of the vehicle was known to Sgt. Williams to have a suspended driver's license. Christine Malinowski (51) was subsequently arrested for DWLS/R. During a search incident to arrest, Malinowski was determined to be in possession of a pipe used to ingest illegal narcotics. She was also charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Malinowski was transported to the GCDF.

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the GCSO received a complaint of a residential burglary in the 600 block of South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Wewahitchka. Deputy J. Hanson responded to investigate. The complainant returned home and discovered someone had entered their residence. Several types of medication were stolen from the home. The case remains under investigation.

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. J. Williams responded to the area of Whitfield Landing Road in reference to the theft of a tractor. The complainant reported the theft of a red Massy Ferguson 35 four cycle tractor valued at approximately \$3,000. A yellow box blade and a blue cultivator was also stolen from the property. The case remains under investigation.

If you have any information regarding the aforementioned cases please contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office at 850-227-1115 or 850-639-5717. If you wish to remain anonymous call Crime Stoppers at 850-785-TIPS.

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