



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

OCTOBER 19, 2015 – NOVEMBER 1, 2015

On Monday, October 19th, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a complaint regarding a vehicle burglary in the 8100 block of Americus Avenue in St. Joe Beach. During Deputy Peek's investigation it was determined the offense occurred on October 15th. A wallet, a pair of black Oakley sunglasses, and a gray Schwinn bicycle were stolen. The estimated value of the items stolen was \$875. Deputy Peek continues to investigate.

On October 19th, Investigator S. Ferrell and Deputy P. Williams arrested Curt L. Johnson (32). The Narcotic Investigators observed Johnson operating a vehicle and had knowledge he did not possess a valid driver's license. When Investigators attempted to initiate a traffic stop, Johnson rapidly accelerated, fleeing from them. While fleeing, Johnson drove the vehicle through the residential area near the 300 block of Central Avenue north of Wewahitchka, striking a pile of lumber and debris causing the vehicle to go airborne. Once the vehicle came to rest, Johnson exited the vehicle and fled on foot. Deputy Williams gave chase and pursued Johnson. Running near a residence, Johnson was located on a porch attempting to conceal the side of his body when Deputy Williams noticed he held a firearm in his right hand. Johnson discarded the firearm and what was later determined to be a glass pipe behind an appliance on the porch. Johnson resisted arrest and briefly struggled with Deputy Williams and Investigator Ferrell before being taken into custody. Marijuana, methamphetamine, and drug paraphernalia were located in the vehicle operated by Johnson. \$325 in cash was found on Johnson's person. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF) and charged with Driving While License Suspended/Revoked, Fleeing and Eluding a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting a Law Enforcement Officer with Violence, Tampering with Evidence, Convicted Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Possession of Less Than Twenty Grams of Marijuana, Possession of Methamphetamine with Intent to Distribute and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

On Tuesday, October 20th, Deputy P. Baxley initiated a traffic stop on U. S. Highway 98 near Beacon Hill Park. Deputy Baxley stopped the vehicle for an equipment violation. Contact was made with the driver, William J. Middleton (33), and it was determined he was operating the vehicle on a suspended driver's license. Middleton was subsequently arrested for Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (DWLS/R) and transported to the GCDF.

On October 20th, Deputy P. Williams conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle operated by Michael A. Kemp (37) in the area of State Road (SR) 71 and Stone Mill Creek Road. Deputy Williams had knowledge that Kemp's license was suspended. The suspension was confirmed and Kemp was taken into custody. He was transported to the GCDF and charged with DWLS/R.

On October 20th, Investigator S. Ferrell and Deputy P. Williams arrested Richard L. Mullinax (63) in the 400 block of Jehu Road in Wewahitchka. Mullinax was arrested on warrants for three counts of the Sale of Methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a Church, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Less Than Twenty Grams (LTTG) of Marijuana. The charges were the culmination of an investigation conducted by the GCSO Narcotics Unit. He was transported to the GCDF.

On October 20th, Deputy M. Ward arrested Johnny A. Williams, Jr. (35) on a Writ of Bodily Attachment at the GCDF. Williams was already in custody at the GCDF.

On Wednesday, October 21st, Deputy P. Williams and Investigator S. Ferrell arrested Zeikel P. Pitts (36) on a traffic stop in the area of SR 71 and Pidgeon Lane in Wewahitchka. Pitts was wanted out of Calhoun County. He was transported to the GCDF.

On October 20th, Aaron G. Watson (30) was arrested in Bay County on a warrant out of Gulf County for Misapplication of Construction Funds. He was later transported to the GCDF the same day. An investigation began after a complaint was received on November 12, 2014, at the Criminal Investigations Division. The complainant reported a construction contract was signed to renovate their vacation home on Cape San Blas with Watson. The victim paid in excess of \$93,000 for the project. During the renovation, the victim received notices from subcontractors with the intent to file liens on the property for failure to receive payment by Watson. The investigation revealed approximately \$37,000 of the funds received from the victim were used on the project, but the remainder was no longer in Watson's account. Lt. P. Beasley obtained a warrant for Watson. He was booked into the GCDF.

On October 20th, Robin A. Vathis (47) turned himself in at the GCSO. Vathis was wanted on warrants out of Bay County from cases investigated by the Mexico Beach Police Department. He was turned over to the staff at the GCDF.

On October 21st, Sgt. J. Williams arrested Timothy J. Heathcock (21) in the 600 block of Maddox Street in Oak Grove. Heathcock was wanted for Violation of Probation. He was transported to the GCDF.

On Thursday, October 22nd, Deputy M. Peek arrested Rachel L. List (26) in the 400 block of Ponderosa Pine Drive in Jones Homestead. List was wanted for Violation of Probation. She was transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, October 23rd, Deputy D. Sanders arrested Josie W. Miller (31) at the Wewahitchka Substation. Miller was wanted for Violation of Probation on her original charges of Possession of Methamphetamine. She was transported to the GCDF.

On October 23rd, the GCSO transported Tyler A. Bowles (27) from the Bay County Jail to the GCDF. Bowles was arrested in Bay County and held for the GCSO on a warrant for Grand Theft.

The original case stemmed from the complaint of a stolen vehicle received on September 4th in the 6800 block of Bass Street in Howard Creek. He was booked into the GCDF.

On Monday, October 26th, Lt. T. Wood took a complaint regarding the theft of a Yeti cooler from a boat. The offense occurred in the 6300 block of Cape San Blas Road. The cooler was described as a light blue Yeti Tundra 50 cooler and was valued at \$275.

On October 27th, Deputy G. Desrosier was contacted in the 200 block of West River Road, in Wewahitchka, in reference to a domestic disturbance. The offense occurred in the 300 block of Hysmith Drive. Sgt. J. Murnan and Deputy Desrosier investigated the complaint and arrested James E. Hysmith (41) for Battery (Domestic). He was transported to the GCDF.

On Wednesday, October 28th, the GCSO received a complaint regarding a disturbance in the 100 block of Arrowhead Circle in Wewahitchka. Deputy P. Baxley responded to the complaint and determined a verbal disturbance which resulted in criminal mischief. Katrina A. Melvin (33) was arrested and charged with Criminal Mischief along with Disorderly Intoxication. Melvin was transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, October 30th, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a domestic disturbance in the 900 block of County Road (CR) 381-A in Dalkeith. Deputy J. Hanson and Sgt. J. Williams responded to the location and found Roger A. Daniels (51) yelling obscenities and intoxicated. Deputy Hanson tried to defuse the situation to no avail. Daniels was arrested and transported to the GCDF for Disorderly Intoxication.

On Saturday, October 31st, the GCSO received a 911 call in reference to a physical disturbance in the 200 block of Old Panama Highway in Wewahitchka. Sgt. J. Murnan and Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the complaint. At the conclusion of the investigation John F. Whitfield (45) was arrested and charged with Battery (Domestic). He was transported to the GCDF.

On October 31st, Sgt. J. Williams conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle operated by Jonathan A. Gay (29). Sgt. Williams had prior knowledge that Gay did not have a valid driver's license. The stop occurred on U.S. Highway 98 and Sixth Street in Port St. Joe. As a result of Gay's prior record he was charged with Felony DWLS/R. Gay was transported to the GCDF.

On October 31st, Sgt. J. Williams conducted a traffic stop on SR 71 near Library Drive in Port St. Joe. The vehicle's tag was expired. Contact was made with the driver, Willa Davis (60), who informed Sgt. Williams she did not have a driver's license. Davis was subsequently arrested for Operating a Motor Vehicle without a License and transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, November 1st, the GCSO received a complaint regarding a residential burglary in the 6500 block of Cape San Blas Road. Sgt. J. Williams responded to investigate the complaint. The residence was entered and appeared to be used to shower and sleep. Blankets and a DVD player were stolen from the home. The home was processed for physical evidence and 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
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