



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

## ***Sheriff Mike Harrison***

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**January 5, 2016**

### **GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY**

DECEMBER 21, 2015 – JANUARY 4, 2016

On Monday, December 21, Deputy M. Layfield, with the assistance of the Port St. Joe Police Department, arrested Matthew L. Bachle (33) in the 100 block of Bridgeport Lane. Bachle was wanted by the Leon County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On December 21, Justin Duane R. Bequette (22) and Ryan M. McDonald (22) were arrested by Deputy M. Layfield for Violation of Probation at the GCDF. Both subjects were already in the custody of the GCDF.

On Tuesday, December 22, the GCSO received a complaint regarding criminal mischief at Donnie Brake Park in Highland View. Sgt. J. Murnan responded to investigate the complaint. The suspect pulled rain gutters loose from a pavilion; cut the steel cable used to support the tennis court net; and damaged a soccer goal frame and net. The total estimated damage to the county property was \$2,100.

On December 22, Deputy G. Desrosier arrested Gary Allen N. Roberts (38) for Violation of Probation at the probation office in Wewahitchka. Roberts was transported to the GCDF.

On Wednesday, December 23, Deputy P. Baxley responded to the 1200 block of West River Road in Wewahitchka in reference to criminal mischief. The complainant discovered the window to their vehicle was busted. The incident occurred during the evening hours of December 22. It is estimated the total cost to repair the damage was \$200. A neighbor in the area also filed a complaint regarding criminal mischief to their vehicle. It was discovered that the air was released in all four tires of the complainant's vehicle. The tires were not permanently damaged and were able to be re-inflated.

On Thursday, December 24, Deputy P. Baxley arrested James W. Porter (37) on warrants for Resisting an Officer without Violence, Reckless Driving, Fleeing and Eluding Law Enforcement, attaching a Tag Not Assigned to a Vehicle, Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (DWLS/R), Unlawful Use of a Two-way Communications Device, and Sale of Methamphetamine. Porter was arrested in Calhoun County and held for the GCSO. He was booked into the GCDF.

On December 24, Deputy P. Baxley responded to the 500 block of Secluded Dunes Drive on Cape San Blas. The GCSO received a complaint regarding a burglary. The suspect in the case gained entry into a small storage shed under the residence. The theft of approximately \$200 in assorted tools was reported.

On Friday, December 25, the GCSO received a complaint of a residential burglary in the 1500 block of State Road (SR) 22 west of Wewahitchka. The complainant reported he was preparing for Christmas when he noticed his presents were missing from underneath his Christmas tree. The items stolen included two red canvass Milwaukee tool bags, a pair of women's purple Converse All Star shoes, a blue Hello Kitty Jacket, a Nirvana t-shirt, and a set of wireless ear buds. The tool bags contained two Milwaukee cordless drills, two Milwaukee cordless sawzalls, along with a set of Dewalt drill bits and impact bits. The total value of the stolen property was \$670.

On December 25, Deputy M. Layfield responded to the 300 block of Jeffery Drive in Port St. Joe in referenced to criminal mischief. The complainant reported that someone attempted to gain access to their apartment through a rear sliding glass door. Deputy Layfield observed tool marks on the exterior of the door and damage to the door's lock. The damage was estimated at approximately \$100.

On Saturday, December 26, the GCSO received a complaint of criminal mischief in the 100 block of South Murphy Road. Deputy M. Layfield responded to investigate. The complainant reported that he returned to his residence and noticed pieces of shattered glass in the kitchen area. The investigation revealed that a small caliber round went through a window and lodged itself in the wall. The incident occurred at some point during the previous three weeks from the date of the report. No one was injured during the incident.

On December 26, Sgt. J. Williams conducted a traffic stop in the area of SR 71, near White City, on a vehicle traveling 97 mph in a posted 60 mph zone. The driver, Stacy A. Murphy (41), was arrested for Reckless Driving. During the investigation Murphy failed to comply with the lawful commands of Sgt. Williams and was also charged with Resisting a Law Enforcement Officer without Violence. Stacy was transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, December 27, the GCSO received a complaint of criminal mischief in the 600 block of Gulf Aire Drive on St. Joe Beach. The complainant found his vehicle rolled with toilet paper and his landscaping wood mulch scattered about his yard. The offense occurred at some point during the night of December 26.

On Monday, December 28, Investigator S. Ferrell and Investigator P. Williams observed Faith M. Hodge (25) operating a vehicle in the area of East River Road and Second Street in Wewahitchka. The GCSO held an active warrant for the Sale of Methamphetamine on Hodge. A traffic stop was conducted and Hodge was subsequently arrested on the warrant. She also was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of Less Than Twenty Grams (LTTG) of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and DWLS/R. Hodge was transported to the GCDF.

On December 28, the GCSO extradited Carie J. Hagy (31) from the Bay County Jail. Hagy was arrested in Bay County and held for the GCSO on a warrant for Violation of Probation. She was transported to the GCDF.

On Tuesday, December 29, the GCSO received a complaint in reference to retail theft at the Dixie Dandy in Wewahitchka. Deputy C. Harvey responded to investigate the complaint. The suspect was no longer at the business upon Deputy Harvey's arrival. An identification was made and criminal charges are forthcoming.

On December 29, Lt. P. Beasley arrested Janice G. Hall (56) after she turned herself in at the GCSO. Hall was wanted by the Baker County Sheriff's Office for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and DUI with Property Damage. She was turned over to the GCDF staff.

On December 29, Investigator S. Ferrell arrested Daniel Earl R. Fisher (21) in the 100 block of SR 71 South in Wewahitchka. Fisher was wanted for Violation of Probation. He was transported to the GCDF.

On Wednesday, December 30, Deputy S. Cook responded to the 7900 block of County Road (CR) 30A in the Money Bayou area in reference to the theft of a cooler. The complainant stated someone stole his white Engel cooler valued at \$400. The cooler was left unattended outside of the residence.

On December 30, Deputy J. Hanson conducted a traffic stop in the area of CR 381 and CR 381A. The vehicle was observed spinning its tires in a ditch filled with water. The driver, William F. Stanley, Jr. (30), was determined to have a suspended driver's license. He was placed under arrest for DWLS/R and transported to the GCDF.

On Thursday, December 31, the GCSO received a complaint of theft from the 8100 block of U.S. Highway 98 on St. Joe Beach. Sgt. J. Murnan responded to investigate. The complainant reported the theft of a 65 quart white Yeti cooler valued at \$400 and a pair of Ariat brown work boots valued at \$75. The items were stolen from an uncovered porch.

On December 31, Investigator S. Ferrell and Investigator P. Williams arrested Joshua A. Causey (32) on a traffic stop in the area of Burgess Creek Road. Causey was stopped due to an equipment violation. He was determined to be operating the vehicle on a suspended driver's license. Causey was arrested for DWLS/R and transported to the GCDF.

On December 31, Sgt. J. Williams was dispatched to the 100 block of Canoe Lane in Indian Pass in reference to a suspicious person. Upon arrival, Sgt. Williams contacted Benjamin J. Bilotta (33). Bilotta was wanted by the Leon County Sheriff's Office. He was subsequently arrested and transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, January 1, the GCSO received a complaint regarding the theft of a Yeti cooler in the 100 block of Sunray Court in the Beacon Hill area. The cooler was described as a white, 45 quart, cooler valued at \$350. The cooler was left unattended outside underneath the residence. The cooler had a blue Tackle Direct decal and a Costa decal on it.

On January 1, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Levi Street in Stone Mill Creek. Deputy D. Sanders responded to the call. At the conclusion of his investigation, Deputy Sanders arrested James E. Pilotti (29) for Battery (Domestic) and Assault (Domestic). He was transported to the GCDF.

On January 1, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a domestic disturbance in the 2100 block of Hayes Avenue in Highland View. The Port St. Joe Police Department assisted in the response to the call. Deputy D. Sanders investigated the complaint and arrested Michael C. Riley, Jr. (28), for Battery (Domestic). He was transported to the GCDF.

On Saturday, January 2, Deputy D. Sanders took a report of the theft of five 32 inch orange traffic cones in the 400 block of Highland Drive north of Wewahitchka. The cones were valued at \$250.

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