



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

MARCH 7, 2016 – MARCH 13, 2016

On Monday, March 7, Investigator S. Ferrell arrested Brandon Evans (24). Evans was observed operating a vehicle in the area of State Road (SR) 71 and Pidgeon Road in Wewahitchka. Investigator Ferrell had knowledge that Evans' driver's license was suspended. He was subsequently arrested and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF). Evans was charged with Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (DWLS/R).

On Tuesday, March 8, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a report of a suspicious person in 7900 block of U.S. Highway 98 in St. Joe Beach. Deputy D. Sanders responded to investigate the complaint. The call resulted in the arrest of Aaron S. Whitehurst (32) and Janie A. Clark (27). Whitehurst was charged with Possession of Less Than Twenty Grams (LTTG) Marijuana. Clark was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Prescription Drug without a Prescription. Both were transported to the GCDF.

On Wednesday, March 9, Marquez R. Johnson (19) turned himself in at the GCSO. Johnson was wanted for Lewd or Lascivious Battery on a Child Under 16. Deputy S. Cook took Johnson into custody and turned him over to the staff at the GCDF.

On March 9, Investigator S. Ferrell and Deputy P. Williams arrested Jeremy D. Riley (28) in the area of Yon's Drive. A traffic stop was conducted after Riley was observed operating a vehicle on a suspended license. Riley was arrested and transported to the GCDF for DWLS/R.

On Thursday, March 10, the GCSO executed a transport order by transporting Robin A. Vathis from the Bay County Jail to Gulf County. Vathis was scheduled to appear in court. He was transported back to Bay County the same day.

On March 10, Investigator P. Williams and Investigator S. Ferrell conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a traffic violation in the area of SR 71 and the West Arm Creek Bridge. Once contact was made with the driver, Investigator Williams could smell a strong odor of burnt marijuana coming from within the vehicle. When asked about the odor the driver, Robert D. Wagner, II (46), told Investigator Williams he had marijuana and a glass smoking pipe in the vehicle that

belonged to him. The vehicle was occupied by several subjects. At the conclusion of the investigation the following subjects were arrested for Possession of LTTG Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia: Wagner, James S. McDonough (20), James D. Hall (28), and Dakota L. Hemanes (21). All subjects were transported to the GCDF.

On March 10, the GCSO received a complaint of a residential burglary in the 200 block of Haven Road on Cape San Blas. Deputy C. Smith responded to investigate the complaint. A Sears brand washer and dryer set that was new and still inside their boxes was stolen from the residence; along with a blue bicycle, miscellaneous yard tools, and a twelve-foot extension ladder. The total value of the items reported stolen was approximately \$1650. Investigator L. Dickey continues to investigate the case.

On Friday, March 11, Deputy M. Ward arrested and served Henry L. Powell, Jr. (54), with a warrant for Violation of Probation on his original charge of Petit Theft at the GCSO.

On Saturday, March 12, Deputy M. Peek responded to the IGA in Wewahitchka in reference to theft. Deputy Peek made contact with the complainant who reported an employee of the business intentionally failed to scan items on the register and allowed a subject to walk out of the business without paying for the items. An investigation into the matter resulted in the arrest of Lawesla D. Matlock (36) for Retail Theft. She was transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, March 13, Deputy M. Peek responded to the 7000 block of U.S. Highway 98 on St. Joe Beach in reference to suspicious person. The caller advised a man was laying down in the parking lot. When Deputy Peek arrived he made contact with the subject, later identified as Gerald C. Shearer (51). The actions of Shearer led to his arrest for Disorderly Intoxication, Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Aggravated Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, and Resisting a Law Enforcement Officer with Violence. He was transported to the GCDF.

On March 13, the Deputy M. Manley responded to the IGA in Wewahitchka in reference to theft. At the conclusion of his investigation, Deputy Manley arrested Connie D. Himes (55) for Retail Theft. Himes was an employee of the business.

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan

Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison