



# **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:* Lt. Paul Beasley  
*Telephone:* 850-227-1115  
*Email:* [pbeasley@gcso.fl.gov](mailto:pbeasley@gcso.fl.gov)

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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### **GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY**

May 30, 2016 – June 5, 2016

On Monday, May 30, 2016, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a stolen medication complaint in the 7000 block of County Road 30 in the Cape San Blas area. Deputy B. Smith responded to investigate the complaint. The complainant reported two prescription drugs were stolen from her purse that she left inside her rental house. The complainant reported the entry door was left unsecured during the time of the theft. Deputy Smith continues to investigate.

On May 30, 2016, the GCSO received a theft complaint in the 600 block of Jehu Road in Wewahitchka. Deputy C. Harvey responded and conducted an investigation. The investigation revealed several personal items were stolen from a bedroom that was being rented inside of a residence. Deputy Harvey continues to investigate.

On May 30, 2016, at approximately 11:54pm Eastern time Deputy P. Baxley observed a white male, later identified as Travis Monroe Beck (32), staggering in the roadway of Trout Avenue in the Highland View area. Deputy Baxley stopped and made contact with Beck who stated he was walking home. Deputy Baxley observed Beck to be confused and walking in the opposite direction of his residence. Through further investigation Beck was found to be in possession of marijuana and a metal smoking device. He was arrested and charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On Tuesday, May 31, 2016, Investigator L. Dickey applied for a juvenile pick up order resulting from an Escambia County Sheriff's Office (ECSO) lewd or lascivious battery investigation that was determined to have occurred in Gulf County. Investigator Dickey continues to investigate.

On May 31, 2016, Deputy M. Garrett executed a transport order and extradited Inmate Paula Renee Cowles (31) from a correctional facility in Jackson County to Gulf County for a court appearance.

On May 31, 2016, Latasha Earrine Mathis (32) surrendered herself on two outstanding Gulf County arrest warrants for Violation of Probation and Failure to Appear. Sgt. R. Burkett arrested Mathis and delivered her to the GCDF.

On Wednesday, June 1, 2016, the GCSO received a theft complaint that occurred in the 300 block of S. Oak Street in the Indian Pass area. The complainant was out of town when the report was filed with Sgt. J. Murnan. The complainant reported that between October 2015, and June 1, 2016, a 50hp outboard motor had been stolen off a 14ft boat stored at their vacation home. Sgt. Murnan continues to investigate.

On June 1, 2016, Deputy M. Garrett transported two inmates to out of county correctional facilities. One inmate was transported to Liberty County and the other to Jackson County.

On June 1, 2016, the GCSO received a residential burglary complaint in the 100 block of Sweetwater Shores in the Indian Pass area. Deputy M. Layfield responded to conduct an investigation. The investigation revealed two televisions were stolen from the residence, which is rental property and was vacant at time of the burglary. This case has been assigned to the GCSO Criminal Investigations Division (CID).

On June 1, 2016, Matthew Ross Green (20) entered the GCSO Wewahitchka Sub-Station and asked Sgt. J. Murnan if there was a warrant for his arrest. A check revealed Green did have an active Gulf County arrest warrant for Failure to Appear. Sgt. Murnan arrested Green and transported him to the GCDF.

On Thursday, June 2, 2016, Investigator S. Ferrell arrested Lawrence Scott Woodman (40) on active arrest warrant out of Gulf County. The arrest was the result of an ongoing investigation conducted by Investigator L. Dickey for contracting without a license. Woodman was charged with one count of Contracting without a License and transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, June 3, 2016, Investigators L. Dickey and S. Ferrell conducted a traffic stop on a silver Ford Focus driven by Sean Michael Rice (21) for running a stop sign at the intersection of Ganley Road and Myers Road in the Five Acre Farms area. When the investigators made contact with Rice they could smell the odor of burnt marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. Through further investigation Rice and the passenger James Austin Norris (19) were searched. The search revealed Norris was in possession of marijuana and methamphetamine which field tested positive. A continued search of the vehicle revealed Rice was in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Rice and Norris were arrested and transported to the GCDF. Rice was charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Norris was charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana and Violation of Probation.

On June 3, 2016, the GCSO received a complaint of a violation of an injunction for protection in the 200 block of Old Panama Highway in Wewahitchka. Deputy M. Peek responded and conducted an investigation. The investigation revealed John Floyd Whitfield (46) violated an active injunction for protection. Whitfield was subsequently arrested and charged with Violation Injunction for Protection against Domestic Violence and Criminal Mischief. He was transported to the GCDF.

On June 3, 2016, the GCSO received a theft complaint in the 200 block of Wetappo Drive in the Overstreet area. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the complaint. The complainant reported a mail order package was delivered to their address. When the complaint arrived at the mailbox the packaging was present but the contents had been stolen. Deputy Harvey continues to investigate.

On June 3, 2016, the GCSO received a domestic violence complaint that occurred in the parking lot of the GCSO Sub-Station parking lot in Wewahitchka. Deputy C. Harvey responded and conducted an investigation. The investigation revealed Trey Scott Sims (22) committed battery against the complainant. Sims was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. He was transported to the GCDF.

On Saturday, June 4, 2016, the GCSO received a domestic violence complaint in the 600 block of Plantation Drive in the Jones Homestead area. Deputy C. Harvey responded and conducted an investigation. The investigation revealed Charles Anthony Costin (56) committed battery against the complainant. Deputy Harvey observed injuries to the complainant that substantiated the allegation. Costin was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. He was transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, June 5, 2016, Deputy B. Smith conducted a traffic stop on a black Nissan four door car for a non-moving traffic infraction at the intersection of West River Road and Highway 22 in Wewahitchka. The vehicle was occupied with three persons under the age of 21. Through further investigation Deputy Smith determined all occupants were in possession of alcohol under 21 years of age. All were given a Notice to Appear for Possession of Alcohol under 21 Years of Age and released at the scene. Two of the occupants were under 18 years of age and were released to their parent/guardian.

On June 5, 2016, Deputy M. Manley served a Failure to Appear arrest warrant at the GCDF on Harlon Wade Stephens (53). Stephens failed to appear on Domestic Battery by Strangulation and Felony Battery.

On June 5, 2016, Matthew Tyler Guthrie (19) turned himself in at the GCDF for an active warrant for Failure to Appear on a Driving without a Valid Driver's License charge. Deputy P. Baxley served the arrest warrant and Guthrie was delivered to the GCDF.

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

Prepared by: Lt. Paul Beasley  
Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison