



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 14, 2016 – NOVEMBER 20, 2016

On Monday, November 14, 2016, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on a gold Jeep sports utility vehicle driven by Melissa Ann Kelly (49) on Highway 98 in the St. Joe area for an expired vehicle registration. A driver's license check revealed Kelly was driving on a suspended license. Kelly was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended or Revoked. Kelly was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On November 14, 2016, Deputy C. Harvey responded to the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) in reference to a walk-in theft complaint. The complainant reported their vehicle tag decal had been removed from their vehicle. Deputy Harvey continues to investigate.

On Tuesday, November 15, 2016, the GCSO received a theft complaint in the 6300 block of Highway 98 in St. Joe Beach. Sgt. C. Dixon responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complainant reported a red Murray Go-Cart with a roll cage had been stolen from their property between November 1, 2016, and November 15, 2016. Sgt. Dixon continues to investigate.

On Wednesday, November 16, 2016, the GCSO received a citizen's assist request in the 200 block of Parker Farm Road in Wewahitchka. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the request. The complainant requested assistance in retrieving their vehicle keys back from Bonnie Evon Hysmith (52) who had taken them from the complainant's residence. A records check revealed there was an arrest warrant for Hysmith out of Calhoun County. Deputy Harvey located Hysmith in the 100 block of North 3rd Street in Wewahitchka and placed her under arrest. The complainant's key was returned. Hysmith was transported to the GCDF.

On November 16, 2016, Deputy C. Harvey arrested Kasey K. Pratt (22) in the 100 block of Arrowhead Circle in the northern area of Gulf County. Pratt had two warrants for her arrest for Failure to Appear. Pratt was transported to the GCDF.

On Thursday, November 17, 2016, the GCSO received a residential burglary complaint in the 200 block of Gulf Pines Drive in the Indian Pass area. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complainant reported their vacation home had been

burglarized and two televisions were stolen. This case has been assigned to the GCSO Criminal Investigations Division (CID).

On November 17, 2016, Deputy D. Sanders arrested Mylissa Leigh Brake (29) in the 400 block of Sunshine Road in the Overstreet area for two arrests warrants. The arrest warrants were for Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Brake was transported to the GCDF.

On Friday, November 18, 2016, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on a silver Mercury on Highway 71 & Doc Whitfield Road for a moving violation. The driver subsequently consented to a search of the vehicle. The consensual search revealed a bag on the front passenger floor board. The passenger James Ryan Caswell (36) told Deputy White the bag belonged to him and stated there was probably illegal drugs inside. During a search of the bag Deputy White discovered methamphetamine, prescription pills and drug paraphernalia. Caswell was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of a New Legend Drug (Cyclobenzaprine Hydrochloride) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Caswell was transported to the GCDF.

On November 18, 2016, Deputy C. Harvey arrested Robert James Price Jr. (38) in the 100 block of North 2nd Street in Wewahitchka. Price had a warrant for his arrest for Violation of Probation. Price was transported to the GCDF.

On November 18, 2016, the GCSO received a burglary of a conveyance complaint in the 3000 block of Highway 71 in the northern area of Gulf County. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complainant reported someone burglarized his tractor trailer. During the burglary, their driver's license and bank card were stolen. During Harvey continues to investigate.

On November 18, 2016, Lt. T. Wood arrested Tristan Lamar Darna (31) in the 300 block of North 4th Street in Wewahitchka. Darna was wanted for Violation of Probation. Darna was transported to the GCDF.

On November 18, 2016, Investigator L. Dickey conducted a traffic stop on a gold Lincoln driven by Colton Lee Mullinax (21) on Highway 22 near the Wetappo Bridge area for unlawful speed. A license check revealed Mullinax was driving on a suspended license. Mullinax was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended or Revoked. Mullinax was transported to the GCDF.

On November 18, 2016, the GCSO received a theft of utilities complaint in the 9100 block of Starfish Avenue in Beacon Hill. Deputy M. Manley responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complainant reported a neighbor had connected a water hose without permission and had stolen water. During the investigation Deputy Manley made contact with the suspect. During this encounter the suspect's son Justin Cole Downum (26) walked up to Deputy Manley. A records check revealed Downum had two warrants for his arrest. The arrest warrants were the result of an investigation conducted by Investigator L. Greenwood that began back in July 2016. Downum has been charged with Unlawful Possession of Stolen Credit Card and Fraudulent Use of Credit Card. Downum was transported to the GCDF. Deputy Manley continues the investigation of the stolen utility.

On November 18, 2016, Sgt. R. Burkett conducted a traffic stop on a white Ford driven by a male juvenile on Highway 98 in the Highland View area for unlawful speed. A license checked revealed the juvenile did not possess a valid driver's license. The juvenile was placed under arrest for No Valid Driver's License. An inventory search of the vehicle revealed the juvenile was in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The juvenile was charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Operating a Motor Vehicle without a License. The juvenile was released at the scene to a parent.

On Saturday, November 19, 2016, the GCSO received a burglary of a conveyance complaint in the 8300 block of County 30A that occurred one year ago. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the complaint. The complainant reported one year ago their Glock 9mm handgun was stolen out of their vehicle. Deputy Harvey continues to investigate.

On November 19, 2016, Deputy M. Manley conducted a traffic stop on a silver BMW driven by Brenda Rene Palmer (19) on State Road 71 and Hoover Drive in the northern part of Gulf County for a moving violation. During the traffic stop Deputy Manley smelled the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. Palmer admitted to Deputy Manley she and her boyfriend had smoked marijuana inside the vehicle. Deputy Manley conducted a probable cause search and located a bag of marijuana on the floor board of the vehicle. Palmer was arrested and charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana. Palmer was transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, November 20, 2016, Deputy M. Peek conducted a traffic stop on a black Chevrolet truck driven by John T. Fitzgerald (30) on Cortez Street in St. Joe Beach for an equipment violation. A driver's license check revealed Fitzgerald was driving on a suspended license. Fitzgerald was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended or Revoked. Fitzgerald was transported to the GCDF.

On November 20, 2016, Deputy M. Manley arrested Kyle Fredrick Erickson (28) at the Gulf/Bay County line on Highway 98 in the Beacon Hill area for a Non Support arrest warrant. Erickson was transported 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