



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 6, 2017 – NOVEMBER 12, 2017

On November 6, Deputy G. Desrosier traveled to the Liberty Correctional Institution to pick up Justin Duane Raymond Bequette (24) and transported him back to Gulf County where he was booked for Violation of Probation. Bequette was on probation for Burglary of a Structure.

On November 6, Deputy D. Sanders executed an arrest warrant for Aaron Shane Whitehurst (33) in the Overstreet area. Whitehurst was wanted for Violation of Probation.

On November 6, Lt. P. Beasley investigated information that Jerome Bill Mitchum (57), who was arrested last week by the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) for leaving the scene of an accident, was a sex offender from Louisiana and that he was not registered in Gulf County. Lt. Beasley learned that Mitchum was now living in Gulf County as a transient and confirmed that he has not registered in Gulf County. Once it was verified that he was a sex offender, Mitchum, who was still in jail on FHP's charges, was charged and booked for Failing to Register as a Sex Offender.

On November 7, Emily Michelle Ellwood (24) called the Gulf County Sheriff's Office to turn herself in on a Battery warrant which stemmed from a domestic disturbance that was investigated by Deputy G. Desrosier on October 5th, 2017. Deputy M. Peek went to Angel Fish Street, where Ellwood was located, and arrested her on the warrant.

On November 7, Deputy M. Peek arrested Melissa E. Thomas (47) after she turned herself in to the Gulf County Sheriff's Office on an arrest warrant for Criminal Mischief. The warrant was issued as the result of a Port St. Joe Police investigation.

On November 7, Reginald Dion Wilson (38) was arrested at the Gulf County Courthouse on a warrant for Sale of Crack Cocaine within 1000 feet of a church.

On November 7, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a report of a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Ward Street in St. Joe Beach. K-9 Deputy M. Peek and Investigators P. Williams and S. Ferrell responded to the call. There they encountered Billy Joe Nichols (43) and Carrie Darlene Keith (40) on the side of the road arguing. During the course of their investigation they found that Nichols was in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Keith was found to be in possession of methamphetamine, marijuana and a smoking device. Both Nichols and Keith were arrested and charged accordingly.

On November 7, Deputy M. Peek was dispatched to the Windmark Beach area to investigate a report of a naked man walking in the dunes. The man was reported to be wearing only a hat and a backpack. Deputy Peek searched the area for the nude man but he could not be found.

On November 7, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a call from the Gulf Correctional Institution stating that they were investigating a report of a possible inmate escape. A subject was seen near Wetappo Creek on Hwy 22 wearing what appeared to be a prisoner's uniform. Deputies and prison staff located the subject who was a civilian wearing clothing similar to a Gulf C.I. Work Crew uniform. Gulf C.I. completed their head count and determined that all inmates were accounted for.

On November 8, Deputy L. Greenwood was dispatched to the 400 block of Sesame Street to investigate a report of a burglary. It was reported that someone had entered into a shed and took a Honda generator and welder.

On November 8, Sondra Jane Parker (54) was arrested by Investigators P. Williams and S. Ferrell on a warrant for Failure to Appear in court on charges of Grand Theft.

On November 8, Deputy M. Peek completed an investigation which led to the arrest of registered sex offender, Robert Leon Brock (26). Deputy Peek gathered information that Brock was violating his residency requirements by not residing at his registered address. Deputy Peek verified the information and determined that criminal charges against Brock should be brought forth. A warrant was obtained for his arrest and he was charged accordingly.

On November 8, Investigators S. Ferrell and P. Williams conducted a traffic stop on CR 386 near Basswood Street. Investigators identified the occupants of the vehicle as Jennifer Paige Stephens (28) and Ashley Lauren Stephens (26). Two small children were in the back seat as well. During the course of the traffic stop, K-9 Deputy M. Peek deployed K-9 "Brix" on the vehicle and developed probable cause to search the vehicle for narcotics. Deputy D. Huggins arrived on scene to search both females and both were found to be possessing syringes containing methamphetamine on their person. Jennifer and Ashley were both charged with Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Drug

Paraphernalia. A report was made to the Department of Children and Families concerning the children in the vehicle.

On November 8, Investigators S. Ferrell and P. Williams conducted a traffic stop on CR 386 and Basswood Street. Investigators made contact with driver, who was later identified as Bryan James Sylvester (35), and noticed that Sylvester was chewing on something. The investigators could smell marijuana coming from inside the vehicle and then noticed that Sylvester was eating marijuana. An attempt was made to keep Sylvester from swallowing the marijuana but it was too late. Fortunately, Sylvester managed to spill enough marijuana on his clothes and on the floorboard to be collected as evidence. Sylvester was arrested and charged with Possession of Marijuana and Tampering with Evidence.

On November 10, Deputy D. Sanders served arrest warrants on Stephen Lee Stanley (24) and Tommy Randolph Turner (31) at the Gulf County Detention Facility. Stanley was wanted for Violation of Probation on the original charge of Battery and Turner was wanted for Violation of Probation on the original charge of Sale of Methamphetamine.

On November 11, Deputy D. Sanders was dispatched to the Gulf Correctional Institution (GCI) to assist with an introduction of contraband investigation. GCI staff foiled a plot by Lacya Antonette Cater (20) and Nikeria Lashai Baker (21) to introduce contraband into the prison during visitation hours. When Carter and Baker entered into the prison for visitation, Baker was found to have tobacco hidden on her person for the purpose of passing it on to an inmate. During the investigation Carter's vehicle was found to have marijuana inside it also. Deputy Sanders arrested both females and transported them to the Gulf County Detention Facility. Carter was charged with Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Baker was charged with Introduction of Contraband into a State Correctional Facility.

On November 11, Deputy C. Harvey was dispatched to investigate a report of a domestic disturbance that was occurring in a vehicle while traveling along the roadway. Deputy Harvey received a description of the vehicle and names of the parties involved. He located the vehicle and stopped it on Hwy 98 in Port St. Joe. Deputy Harvey made contact with Roland Morris Schoelles (52) and his female companion. During Deputy Harvey's investigation into the matter, he discovered that Schoelles was the respondent on an active protection order which prohibits him from being in contact with the particular female that was in the vehicle with him. Schoelles was arrested charged with Violation of a Protection Order.

On November 11, Deputy D. House conducted a traffic stop on CR 381 in Burgess Creek. Deputy House identified the driver as Jeremy Dewayne Riley (30) and determined that his driver's license was suspended. Riley was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended driver's license.

On November 11, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on Madison Street, near the intersection of Twine Road. During the course of the traffic stop, Deputy White learned that the driver, Ka'Ciah Shania Robinson (20), was driving with a suspended driver's license. Robinson was also found to be in possession of a pill bottle with crack cocaine inside and a set of digital scales. Robinson was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended driver's license, Possession of Crack Cocaine and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

On November 12, Deputy D. Sanders was assigned to investigate a report of a burglary in the 6000 block of Nellie Whitfield Road in Howard Creek. It was reported that sometime during the night, someone came onto the front porch of a residence and took a nail gun, chop saw, impact wrench with sockets and two sets of loppers.

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. Tim Wood

Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison