



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 • 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

MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

DECEMBER 26, 2016 – JANUARY 1, 2017

On Monday, December 26, 2016, Deputy C. Harvey conducted a traffic stop on a white Nissan truck driven by Jarrett Cleveland Pridgeon (35) on Highway 98 in the Windmark Beach area for a moving violation. A records check revealed Pridgeon was wanted out of Bay County for Violation of Probation. Pridgeon was arrested and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On Tuesday, December 27, 2016, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received a walk-in forgery complaint. Sgt. R. Burkett responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The investigation revealed someone attempted to utter a forged check belonging to the complainant at a financial institution in Wewahitchka. Sgt. Burkett continues to investigate.

On Wednesday, December 28, 2016, Deputy A. White executed a transport order and transported Dustin James Pittenger (22) from the Jackson County Correctional Facility and delivered him to the GCDF. GCSO held an active Violation of Probation warrant for his arrest. Deputy White served the arrest warrant.

On Friday, December 30, 2016, the GCSO received a commercial burglary complaint that occurred at the Muscogee Fishing Club in the northern part of Gulf County. Deputy M. Manley responded to the 1900 block of Long Avenue in Port Saint Joe to meet with the complainant. The complainant reported since October 2016, a stainless steel fish fryer and two microwave ovens have been stolen from the lodge. Deputy Manley continues to investigate.

On December 30, 2016, Deputy P. Baxley conducted a traffic stop on a blue Mazda driven by Sirvaun Junius Wellons (44) on E. River Road in Wewahitchka for an equipment violation. A driver's license check revealed Wellons was driving on a suspended license. Wellons was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended or Revoked. Wellons was transported to the GCDF.

On December 30, 2016, Deputy C. Harvey responded to the GCDF where he served Joshua Lee Knapp (38) with a Violation of Probation arrest warrant.

On Saturday, December 31, 2016, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on a red Honda driven by female juvenile on Highway 98 & Cement Bridge Road for a moving violation. During the traffic stop Deputy White smelled the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. The driver and two male juvenile passengers admitted to Deputy White there was marijuana inside the vehicle. The juveniles surrendered the marijuana to Deputy White. A probable cause search was conducted and no further illegal drugs were discovered. All the juveniles were issued a Notice to Appear with mandatory court dates.

On December 31, 2016, Deputy B. Smith conducted a traffic stop on a black Chrysler driven by Anthony Valero J Thompson (41) on Highway 22 in Wewahitchka for an equipment violation. Deputy Smith deployed K-9 Brix and conducted an open air sniff of the exterior of the vehicle for the odor of illegal narcotics. K-9 Brix gave a positive alert for the presence of illegal narcotics. Deputy Smith conducted a probable cause search and discovered cocaine. Thompson was arrested and charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance (Cocaine). Thompson was transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, January 1, 2017, the GCSO received a suspicious person complaint in the area of State Road 71 and Bill Nelson Road in the Dalkeith area. Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the complaint and located the suspicious person who was identified as Justin Thomas Stephenson (35). Deputy Desrosier asked Stephenson if he was in possession of any weapons and he replied, yes. During a pat down search Stephenson was found to be in possession of marijuana. Stephenson was arrested and charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana. Stephenson was transported to the GCDF.

On January 1, 2017, the GCSO received a 911 call from caller who had been in the vehicle with William Warren Brady Griffin (24). The caller reported Griffin was driving erratically so they got out of the vehicle and Griffin began shooting a rifle. Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. Deputy Desrosier located Griffin who was extremely intoxicated. The investigation revealed Griffin was intoxicated and discharged a firearm in public. Griffin was arrested and charged with Discharging Firearm in Public and Using Firearm While under the Influence. Griffin was transported to the GCDF.

On January 1, 2017, the GCSO received a domestic disturbance complaint in the 100 block of South Turkey Avenue in the Howard Creek area. Deputy C. Harvey responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The investigation revealed Bobbi Marie Ray (32) battered her paramour during a verbal argument. Deputy Harvey observed injuries to the victim to substantiate the allegations. Ray had fled the scene prior to law enforcement arrival. An arrest warrant has been applied for charging Ray with Domestic Battery.

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