



***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  
February 27, 2017

### **GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY**

FEBRUARY 20, 2017 – FEBRUARY 26, 2017

On Monday, February 20, 2017, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received an intake report from the Department of Children & Families (DCF) alleging sexual abuse to a child under the age of twelve. The report indicated the offense occurred in Gulf County but the victim was living in Leon County. The investigation has been assigned to the GCSO Criminal Investigation Division (CID). Investigator L. Dickey is coordinating the investigation with the Tallahassee Police Department (TPD). The investigation is ongoing.

On Tuesday, February 21, Deonte James Ray (24) surrendered himself at the GCSO for a Failure to Appear warrant. Deputy P. Baxley served the arrest warrant and delivered Ray to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF).

On February 21, the GCSO received theft complaint in the 6100 block of County Road 30 in the Simmons Bayou area. Deputy P. Baxley responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complainant reported a breathing machine and a pair deck shoes had been stolen from their residence. Deputy Baxley continues to investigate.

On Wednesday, February 22, Investigators S. Ferrell and P. Williams conducted a traffic stop on a white Toyota driven by Patricia Ann Knight (47) on Highway 22 & Winnie Street in Wewahitchka for unlawful speed. A records check revealed Knight was driving on a suspended license. Investigators observed the passenger Loretta Lesha Swearengin (28) acting extremely nervous. Investigators smelled the odor of marijuana coming from Swearengin. Swearengin admitted she was in possession of marijuana and there were more drugs and drug paraphernalia inside the vehicle. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed Swearengin was also in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Swearengin was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Less Than Twenty Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Swearengin was transported to the GCDF. Knight was issued a

criminal traffic citation for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked which requires a mandatory court appearance.

On Friday, February 24, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on a white PT Cruiser driven by Lucas M. Adams (23) on Highway 98 and Allen Memorial Way for an equipment violation. During the traffic stop Deputy White asked Adams if there was anything illegal inside the vehicle. Adams then removed a bag of marijuana and drug paraphernalia from his pocket handing it over to Deputy White. Adams was placed under arrest and charged with Possession of Less Than 20 Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Adams was transported to the GCDF.

On February 24, Deputy G. Desrosier executed a transport order and transported Ian Russell McNab (33) from the Leon County Jail and delivered him to the GCDF. McNab was wanted by the GCSO for Failure to Appear from a Possession of a Controlled Substance charge.

On February 24, the GCSO received a theft complaint in the 2600 block of Indian Pass Road in Indian Pass. Sgt. C. Dixon responded to the complaint to conduct an investigation. The complaint reported their red/orange Old Town 10ft kayak had been stolen out the beach. Sgt. Dixon continues to investigate.

On February 24, the GCSO received a domestic disturbance complaint in the 400 block of Gulf Aire Drive in the St. Joe Beach area. Lt. T. Wood and Sgt. C. Dixon responded to the disturbance to conduct an investigation. The investigation revealed Shelton Cortez Lewis (32) battered his spouse and fled the scene prior to law enforcement arrival. Lt. Wood observed injuries to the victim that substantiated the battery allegations. An arrest warrant has been issued for Lewis charging him with Domestic Battery.

On February 24, Investigator S. Ferrell and P. Williams arrested Brandi Ellise Brogdon (38) in the 100 block of Mitchell Road in Wewahitchka. Brogdon was wanted by the GCSO for Violation of Probation. Brogdon was transported to the GCDF.

On February 24, Investigator S. Ferrell and P. Williams arrested Arlon Keith Burke (50) in a wooded approximately four miles west of County Road 386 in the Overstreet area. Burke was wanted by the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on multiple Out of County warrants. Burke was transported to the GCDF.

On February 24, the GCSO received a suspicious vehicle complaint in the 100 block of Laurelwood Drive in Wewahitchka. Deputy C. Harvey, Investigator S. Ferrell and Investigator P. Williams responded to investigate. The investigation revealed Gary Allen Noah Roberts (39) and Christopher Allen Nelson (32) were in the process of manufacturing methamphetamine. Roberts and Nelson were placed under arrest and both charged with Manufacturing a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine), Possession of Drug

Paraphernalia and Unlawful Possession of Listed Chemicals. Roberts and Nelson were transported to the GCDF.

On Sunday, February 26, Deputy M. Manley arrested Jennifer Elizabeth Rhodes (27) in the 200 block of James Drive in Wewahitchka. Rhodes was wanted by the GCSO for Aggravated Assault, Battery and Disorderly Conduct. The charges were the result of an investigation by Deputy P. Baxley on February 20, 2017. Rhodes 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