



***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:* Capt. Chris Buchanan  
*Telephone:* 850-227-1115  
*Email:* [cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov](mailto:cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov)

PRESS RELEASE  
March 6, 2017

### **TRAFFIC VIOLATION LEADS TO DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES**

Sheriff Mike Harrison announces the arrest of Tosha R. Sawdey (37) and Lonnie W. Cross (46) of Panama City. The arrests are the result of a traffic stop conducted by Deputy A. White, in the area of U.S. Highway 98 and Westview Boulevard, due to an equipment violation.

During the stop Deputy White contacted Sawdey and Cross, and he noticed the strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. The odor prompted Deputy White to inquire if there was anything illegal in the vehicle. Sawdey and Cross initially denied that there was, but later Cross handed Deputy White a small bag of marijuana. A search of the vehicle yielded more marijuana and drug paraphernalia from the container Cross retrieved the small bag of marijuana from. Sawdey was determined to be in possession of numerous pills in unmarked containers. Deputy White seized 93 Hydrocodone, 96 Alprazolam, and 219 Diazepam tablets.

Sawdey and Cross were placed under arrest and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility. Cross was charged with Possession of Less Than Twenty Grams of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Sawdey was charged with Trafficking in Hydrocodone, Trafficking in Alprazolam, and Trafficking in Diazepam.

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan  
Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison