



***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. Tim Wood  
Telephone: 850-227-1115  
Email: [twood@gcso.fl.gov](mailto:twood@gcso.fl.gov)

MEDIA RELEASE  
September 12, 2017

### **GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY**

SEPTEMBER 4, 2017 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

On September 4, Gary Lee Hudson (48) was arrested in Okaloosa County on a Gulf County warrant for placing harassing phone calls to the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

On September 4, Deputies were dispatched to a report of a traffic accident on Hwy 22 near Shorty Kemp Road. The accident involved two vehicles that were heavily damaged and obstructed both lanes of travel. The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the cause of the crash.

On September 4, Deputy P. Baxley responded to the area of Plantation Road in Wewahitchka in reference to a report of a theft. Deputy Baxley learned that a man was stealing lumber from private property in the area. Deputy Baxley was able to develop a suspect and an arrest is pending the outcome of the investigation.

On September 4, Deputy C. Harvey was dispatched to Hwy 71, between Wewahitchka and Howard Creek, in reference to a report of a reckless driver. The caller stated that the vehicle was driving with blown tires and things were flying out of the truck. Deputy Harvey located a Ford Ranger on the side of the road. Smoke was boiling from under the hood and a rear wheel was blown and bare to the rim. Deputy Harvey's investigation revealed that the driver, Harold Wayne Cutchens, Jr. (42), was in possession of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia. Cutchens, who is a convicted felon, was also found to be in possession of ammunition. Cutchens was arrested and charged accordingly.

On September 4, Deputy P. Baxley was dispatched to the 500 block of Hwy 71 in reference to a domestic disturbance involving a firearm. When Deputy Baxley arrived on scene to investigate he learned that David Anthony Hysmith (39) had battered his spouse and threatened her with a rifle. Hysmith was the only one left inside the house and was presumed to still be armed. Deputy Baxley and Deputy M. Peek were able to take Hysmith

into custody without force. Hysmith was charged with Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Domestic Battery.

On September 5, Deputy M. Manley began investigating a report of a burglary on Hwy 98 in St. Joe Beach. The victim reported to Deputy Manley that his wallet, cooler, vaping device and fishing tackle were stolen from his car port during the night. No leads have been developed at this time.

On September 5, Deputy M. Manley was assigned to investigate a theft on Hwy 98 in St. Joe Beach. Deputy Manley learned that a Yeti Cooler and two rod and reels were stolen from behind a house on a sand trail leading to the beach. No leads have been developed at this time.

On September 5, Deputy P. Young was dispatched to the bus barn in Wewahitchka in reference to the theft of some gas. Employees at the bus barn noticed that a hose was coming out of their fuel tanks and into a smaller gas can. It appeared that someone was trying to syphon fuel from the fuel tanks. Evidence was collected leading Deputy Young to a suspect but no arrests have been made at this time.

On September 5, Deputy M. Manley was assigned to investigate the theft of a wallet from a residence on Shell Road. The victim alleged that his roommate stole his wallet and used his debit card without his permission. Deputy Manley will continue to investigate the theft and the fraudulent charges on the victim's debit card.

On September 5, Deputy Manley was dispatched to Hwy 98 in St. Joe Beach in reference to the theft of a 48 quart Grizzly cooler. The cooler was stolen from the back porch of the residence. Evidence indicates that the suspect approached the residence from the beach to steal the cooler. Deputy Manley canvassed the area in attempt to develop a suspect but was unsuccessful.

On September 5, Investigator S. Ferrell and Investigator P. Williams observed a vehicle being driven by Steven Joseph Williams (28). S. Williams, who had a suspended driver's license, swapped seats with a passenger, Joshua Earl Adkison (36), before they stopped for law enforcement. Investigators stopped the vehicle and placed S. Williams under arrest for knowingly driving with a suspended driver's license. S. Williams is on probation for Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia so he was also charged with Violation of Probation. Further investigation resulted in Adkison being charged with Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Paraphernalia.

On September 5, K-9 Deputy M. Peek conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Hwy 71 and CR 386. Deputy Peek identified the driver of the vehicle as Josiah Curtis Quaranta (23) and obtained consent to search the vehicle, which resulted in the discovery of methamphetamine. Quaranta was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine.

On September 6, Deputy G. Desrosier was dispatched to investigate a report of a bear sighting on Lighthouse Avenue in Beacon Hill. The bear was not located by the deputy. If you live in this area, be sure to take what steps you can to prevent bears from accessing your garbage containers.

On September 7, Deputy A. White conducted a traffic stop on Hwy 71 in the area of Bodie Lister Road. Deputy White identified the driver of the vehicle as Jenna M. Townsend (27) and discovered that her driver's license was suspended. Townsend was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license.

On September 7, deputies arrested Norris Anthony Clayton (41) on an Order of Contempt for failure to pay child support.

On September 8, Emily Michelle Ellwood (24) turned herself into the Gulf County Detention Facility. Ellwood had a warrant for her arrest for Violation of Probation on the on the original charge of Sale of Methamphetamine. She was released on a \$5,000.00 bond.

On September 8, Mark Leroy Richardson (31) was arrested for Violation of Probation warrant. Richardson was on probation for driving with a suspended driver's license.

On September 8, Investigator S. Ferrell and Investigator P. Williams observed Mark Andrew Gay (50) driving a vehicle in the area of Hwy 71 and Hwy 22. Gay had a warrant for his arrest so investigators stopped the vehicle. Contact was made with Gay and his passenger, James Raymond Heath Jr. (50). During the course of the traffic stop, Heath was observed trying to conceal something. A search of the vehicle was conducted and a personal amount of methamphetamine and marijuana were found where Heath was sitting in the vehicle. Heath was placed under arrest and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Gay was placed under arrest for a Violation of Probation warrant. Gay was on probation for contracting without a license. Gay also received a citation for driving with a suspended driver's license.

On September 9, deputies were dispatched to the area of CR 386 and Harmony Street in reference to a traffic accident with injuries, involving two vehicles. One of the drivers was identified as Zackery Lance Porter (32). Porter was pronounced deceased at the scene. The other driver was identified as Travis Shelby Huffine (26). Huffine was transported to Bay Medical Center by EMS but later succumbed to his injuries. The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the accident.

On September 9, Deputy P. Baxley conducted a traffic stop on CR 386 near the Overstreet Bridge. It was discovered that the driver, Christopher Austin Gainey (21), did not have a valid driver's license. Gainey was arrested for driving with a suspended driver's license

and was released on his own recognizance. 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