



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
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GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

APRIL 9, 2018 – APRIL 15, 2018

On Monday, April 9th, Deputies with the Gulf County Sheriff's Office were at the Port St. Joe High School conducting a narcotics detection operation. The operation resulted in the arrest of a 17-year-old student for Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of a Firearm on School Property.

On Monday, April 9th, Deputy A. White was dispatched to Land's Landing boat landing and park in reference to a theft. Someone had cut approximately 40 feet of aluminum handrailing from the concrete walkway and stole it.

On Monday, April 9th, Sgt. J. Williams received a tip from a citizen about a suspicious vehicle in Pine Ridge Apartments in Port St. Joe. Sgt. Williams and Deputy D. House located the car and determined that it was reported stolen in the City of Parker. The vehicle was towed and was held for the Parker Police Department. Sgt. Williams later developed the names of suspects who had ties to the vehicle. These suspects were involved in a shooting later in the day on Martin Luther King Blvd.

On Monday, April 9th, Deputy D. House was dispatched to Sweetwater Drive in reference to a burglary. The victim reported that four (4) bar stools were missing from the home. Deputy House noticed cuts in the screen near the door locks, which is possibly how the suspects gained entry into the house.

On Monday, April 9th, the Port St. Joe Police Department received a 911 call in reference to a shooting incident near the intersection of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Avenue F. A description and direction of travel of the vehicle that the shooter was in was given to GCSO deputies. Deputy M. Layfield and Sgt. Dickey located the vehicle traveling North on Hwy 71 in Honeyville. They encountered several subjects occupying the vehicle. Officer V. Everett (PSJPD) obtained enough evidence from the scene to assist Sgt. Dickey in identifying a suspect. Isiah Clifford Tyrone Graddy (19) was taken into custody and would be charged by the Port St. Joe Police Department for Discharging a Firearm from a Vehicle.

On Monday, April 9th, Deputy M. Layfield was dispatched to the 5000 block of S. Hwy 71 in reference to a theft. The victim reported that he found his back-yard fence gate open. Upon searching through his shed, the victim noticed that he was missing a DeWalt cordless drill and a Husquvarna chainsaw.

On Wednesday, April 11th, Deputy M. Manley and Investigator P. Baxley responded to a report of a burglary in the 6000 block of Bass Street in Howard Creek. During the investigation, Investigator Baxley began inquiring about injuries the victim had. The victim stated that he recently received the injuries at the hands of Aaron Barjames Touchet (41). The investigation concluded with Touchet being placed under arrest and charged with Trespassing and Battery on a person 65 year of age or older. Touchet's girlfriend, Kayla Linn Hester (26), was also taken into custody after revealing that she had a warrant for her arrest out of Bay County.

On April 11th, Investigators P. Williams and S. Ferrell went to Spruce Avenue to execute an arrest warrant on Aaron Shane Whitehurst (34). Whitehurst was wanted for Burglary of a Dwelling. The warrant against Whitehurst resulted from a burglary investigation by Investigator P. Baxley that began in November of 2017, which occurred on S. Long St. in Overstreet. Whitehurst was apprehended and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility.

On Thursday, April 12th, David Michael Mathews (34) turned himself in to the Gulf County Detention Facility to be booked on a Writ of Bodily Attachment for failing to pay child Support.

On Thursday, April 12th, Investigators P. Williams and S. Ferrell conducted a traffic stop on Old Transfer Road near Pam Street. Investigators made contact with the driver and identified him as Lajarius Xavier Cooper (26). While they spoke with Cooper, they noticed that he was trying to conceal something. Cooper was detained and it was revealed that Cooper was trying to hide a glass pipe which had methamphetamine residue inside. A search of the vehicle revealed a small container with methamphetamine inside it. Cooper, who is on drug offender probation, was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Resisting Law Enforcement without Violence and Violation of Probation.

On Thursday, April 12th, Deputy C. Harvey responded to the 3000 block of Cape San Blas Road in reference to a suspicious person going underneath vacant houses. Deputy Harvey went to the pool area of a vacant house, within in the same area, and located clothing next to the pool and a phone charging in an outlet. Deputy Harvey then encountered a white male coming down the stairway from a porch above. The man was identified as Adrian Michael Cook (33), of Panama City. When Cook was asked about why he was on the property, he stated that he needed to rinse off after being on the beach so he figured he would use someone's pool who was not home. He also needed to charge his cell phone. Deputy Harvey verified through the property's management company that Cook

did not have permission to be on the property so he was placed under arrest for Trespassing. Cook was found to be in possession of methamphetamine, marijuana, a pipe used to smoke methamphetamine and a set of brass knuckles. Cook was additionally charged with the drug violations and possessing a concealed weapon.

On Thursday, April 12th, Deputy G. Desrosier traveled to the Bay County Jail to pick up Jonathan Glen Carmichael (31) on a Gulf County warrant for Violation of Community Control. Carmichael was on Community Control Probation for two counts of Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer. Carmichael was transported back to Gulf County Detention Facility to be booked for the charge.

On Thursday, April 12th, Deputy G. Desrosier responded to a report of a disturbance on Hwy 98, across from Veterans Park in Beacon Hill. When Deputy Desrosier arrived, he contacted a man on the side of the road who was acting in a belligerent manor. The man, who was identified as Mitchell R. Gerfen (53), said that he and David Lee Bollinger (50) had been drinking vodka and smoking marijuana all day. They were riding their bicycles together when they crashed into each other. As a result, a physical altercation ensued between the two. Deputy Desrosier found Bollinger on the beach, and he too was intoxicated. Deputy Desrosier arrested both subjects and charged them with Disorderly Intoxication and Public Affray.

On Friday, April 13th, Deputy L. Greenwood conducted a traffic stop on SR C-30A in Simmons Bayou. Deputy Greenwood identified the driver as Ashley Cortez Fennell (30) and determined that Fennell's driver's license was suspended. Fennell was placed under arrest and charged accordingly.

On Friday, April 13th, Deputy M. Layfield and C. Harvey responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 300 block of Jehu Road in Wewahitchka. Deputies arrived and learned that Dennis Earl Shiver (24) had been involved in a physical altercation with the mother of his child. It was determined that Shiver was the aggressor in the conflict and was placed under arrest for Domestic Battery.

On Saturday, April 14th, Deputy A. White was assigned to investigate a theft of utilities report in the 5000 block of S. Hwy 71. Deputy White identified the suspect as John Burl Vickery (40). The complainant did not wish to file charges against Vickery but during a wanted person check, it was revealed that Vickery was wanted out of Bay County for Burglary. Vickery was arrested and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility.

On Sunday, April 15th, Sheriff's deputies and a Port St. Joe police officer responded to a domestic dispute, involving a firearm, in the 200 block of Windmark Way. When officers arrived, they contacted the victim outside of the house who reported that she had been chased out of her house by her husband, William W. McLemore (56), who was allegedly armed with a firearm during that time. Officers entered the house and found that it was in disarray, indicating that some sort of disturbance had occurred inside. They found

McLemore inside, unarmed, and attempted to take him into custody. McLemore became belligerent and refused to comply with the officer's orders. A struggle ensued between officers and McLemore but McLemore was ultimately restrained and placed under arrest. McLemore was charged with Aggravated Assault involving Domestic Violence, Resisting Law Enforcement with Violence and Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer.

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