



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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MEDIA RELEASE
July 17, 2018

GCSO LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

JULY 9, 2018 – JULY 15, 2018

On Monday, July 9th, Deputy P. Young conducted a traffic stop on Hwy 22 near the intersection of Jarrott Daniels Road. Deputy Young identified the driver, and sole occupant, as Bobby Lynn Tipton (46). A driver's license check revealed that Tipton's license was suspended and was classified as a habitual traffic offender. Tipton was placed under arrest for driving with a suspended license. While affecting the arrest, Tipton was found to be in possession of Oxycodone without a prescription. Tipton was additionally charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance.

On Monday, July 9th, Deputy M. Manley was dispatched to the area of Old Panama Highway and Freeman Rouse Road in reference to female running around in the road with no clothing on. Deputy Manley found the female and made arrangements to get her clothed. Her mental state was unstable so she was taken into protective custody and transported to a treatment facility.

On Monday, July 9th, Deputy M. Manley conducted a traffic stop on Big Daddy Nook Drive near the intersection of Lake Grove Road in Wewahitchka. Deputy Manley made contact with the driver, and a passenger, and explained the reason for the stop. While speaking with the driver, who identified as Lawrence Odis Jacks (56), Deputy Manley could smell an odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A search of the vehicle revealed approximately 10 grams of marijuana hidden in a compartment inside the cab of the vehicle. Jacks took ownership of the marijuana and he was charged accordingly. Jacks also has a suspended driver's license so was additionally charged with DWLSR.

On Tuesday, July 10th, at approximately 1:47 am, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a report of two male subjects fleeing the Hwy 22 Bar, located at 1747 Hwy 22 in Wewahitchka, after hearing what sounded like gun shots. Deputies responded to the scene and found the back door ajar. Deputies entered the building and found that the inside was saturated with gasoline. Due to the suspicious circumstances, criminal investigators responded to the scene and are actively investigating the incident. Anyone

with information pertaining to this event is encouraged to contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

On Wednesday, July 11th, Deputy A. White was dispatched to the 9000 block of C30-A in reference to a report of a theft. It was reported that someone had stolen a Briggs and Stratton, gas powered, generator from underneath a pole barn on the property. The theft remains under investigation.

On Wednesday, July 11th, Deputy A. White took a report of a theft at the Scallop Cove located in the 4000 block of Cape San Blas Road. Two white males were reported walking into the store and stealing two flashlights. Both men were captured committing the theft on video surveillance. Once they are identified, both subjects will be facing theft charges.

On Thursday, July 12th, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office received a tip regarding the location of a stolen vehicle out of Bay County. The vehicle was spotted at the Creek Stop Deli at Hwy 71 and Stone Mill Creek Road. Deputy A. White responded to the area and confirmed the vehicle as stolen. He identified the driver of the vehicle as Benjamin Lee Russell (38). It was revealed that Russell's driver's license was suspended so he was taken into custody and charged locally with DWLSR. Russell admitted to taking the vehicle without permission from the owner and will also be facing criminal charges out of Bay County.

On Thursday, July 12th, Arron B. Touchet (42) was arrested on Bass St. in Howard Creek by Sgt. D. Sanders on an active violation of probation warrant. Touchet was on probation for Battery and Trespass.

On Thursday, July 12th, Deputy G. Desrosier was dispatched to the Dixie Dandy in Wewahitchka to investigate the discovery of phony currency in circulation. A ten-dollar bill was discovered that is marked "FOR MOTION PICTURE USE ONLY" and is commonly referred to as prop money. Prop money looks very similar to real currency and can be accepted as real if one is not paying attention. The bill was seized by law enforcement and will be destroyed. Other businesses in Gulf County should be aware of prop money and be careful not to accept it.

On Friday, July 13th, Loren Siprell (60) was arrested at the Gulf County Detention Facility after turning himself in on a warrant for Exploitation of the Elderly and Fraudulent Use of a Credit/Debit Card (2 or more times within 6 months).

On Friday, July 13th, The Franklin County Sheriff's Office assisted our agency by transporting Terry G. Baxley (60), Jennifer P. Stephens (29) and Darnell McCurdy (24) from the Bay County Jail to the Gulf County Detention Facility. Baxley had an active violation of probation warrant and was on probation for Possession of Methamphetamine, Armed Trespass and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Stephens had an active warrant for violation of probation and was on probation for Possession of Controlled Substance x3.

McCurdy had an active warrant for Failure to Appear on the charges of Felony Domestic Battery or Felony Battery.

On Friday, July 13th, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office was assisting the Apalachicola Police Department locate a vehicle being driven by a suspect who had pulled a gun on a subject in Apalachicola. Gulf County deputies located a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle traveling West on Hwy 98 toward Port St. Joe, from Franklin County. Deputies stopped the vehicle and identified the driver as Richard C. Jones Jr. (43). Jones was detained and a firearm was found in his vehicle. Jones was confirmed as the suspect and will be facing criminal charges in Franklin County. The incident in Franklin County involved him and a subject who has a protection order against him. The protection order prohibits Jones from possessing a firearm so Jones was charged locally with Violation of an Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence (Possession of a Firearm).

On Saturday, July 14th, Deputy V. Everett was dispatched to the 200 block of N. 4th Street in Wewahitchka in reference to a criminal mischief. It was reported that someone had broken into a barn and vandalized the contents of the barn, including the horses. A horse saddle and an equine medical kit was also stolen. The suspects tainted the horse feed with insect spray and painted graffiti around the barn in red paint. The horses were also painted on. Anyone with information regarding the case is encouraged to contact Sgt. John Murnan with the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

On Saturday, July 14th, Deputy V. Everett was dispatched to the Gulf Correctional Institution to assist Gulf C.I. staff in reference to a visitor being caught smuggling contraband into the prison. Keisha Brienne McClenton (26) was caught by Gulf C.I. authorities attempting to introduce cocaine and synthetic cannabinoids into the prison. McClenton was placed under arrest and charged with Possession of Cocaine, Possession of a Controlled Substance and Introduction of Contraband into a State Correctional Institution. McClenton had with her, two small children. The Department of Children and Family Services was called and they responded to take custody of the children.

On Sunday, July 15th, Deputy M. Manley was assigned to investigate a report of a burglary in the 8000 block of Hwy 98 in St. Joe Beach. A rental home was entered (no forced entry) and two televisions and miscellaneous electronic goods were taken. Deputy Manley continues to investigate.

On Sunday, July 15th, Deputy Manley was dispatched to Harrison Drive in Wewahitchka in reference to a burglary. It was reported that someone had entered into the a screened in portion of a porch and took a coffee can full of single dollar bills. The victims truck was entered into also. There the suspects took twenty to thirty dollars' worth of change and two packs of cigarettes. A half-gallon of Kentucky Deluxe Whiskey was taken from the vehicle also.

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