



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

418 Cecil G Costin Sr Blvd • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 • 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

PRESS RELEASE
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JOHNSON CAPTURED THURSDAY EVENING IN CALHOUN COUNTY

The search for Chad Edward Johnson (43) ended yesterday evening around 7:20 p.m. Central Time in an area about four miles south of Blountstown, in Calhoun County. Yesterday morning the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, Bay County Sheriff's Office Aviation Unit, and Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) Investigators searched areas in northern Gulf and southern Calhoun Counties. The objective of the search was to look for the stolen vehicle believed to be taken by Johnson after he escaped from the Gulf County Detention Facility on Tuesday.

At approximately 12:30 p.m. Central Time, the stolen vehicle was spotted from the air in the area of SW Carlos Peavy Road and Highway 71. Units on the ground discovered fresh activity around the vehicle and at an abandoned mobile home on the property. Deputies from surrounding counties responded to secure the area. Florida Department of Corrections K9 Units from Gulf and Calhoun Correctional Institutions responded, along with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit, to resume a ground search for Johnson.

Shortly after sunset, the Leon County Sheriff's Office Aviation Unit equipped with a Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) camera arrived and located Johnson. Units on the ground were directed to Johnson by the pilots. He was taken into custody without incident. A note left by Johnson in the abandoned home was discovered. It thanked the owner for the "good hiding spot" and was signed "Man on the run..."

"The apprehension of Chad Johnson was possible because of many dedicated law enforcement professionals who are committed to the safety of their communities," said Sheriff Mike Harrison. Agencies who assisted in the apprehension of Johnson consisted of Gulf Correctional Institution K9 Unit, Calhoun Correctional Institution K9 Unit, U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, Bay County Sheriff's Office, Calhoun County Sheriff's Office, Liberty County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Leon County Sheriff's Office, and the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

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