



Gulf County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Mike Harrison

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PRESS RELEASE
May 8, 2025

FORMER WHS TEACHER ARRESTED

On May 5, 2025, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) received information from Gulf District Schools regarding an allegation of a possible sexual relationship between a teacher and student at Wewahitchka High School. The teacher was identified as Parker Eugene Harris Ottoson (34). Upon learning of these allegations, Gulf Districts Schools immediately terminated Harris Ottoson who was a probationary employee.

The GCSO immediately opened an investigation. During a forensic interview, conducted by the Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center's Child Protection Team, the student disclosed that sexual activity occurred with Harris Ottoson.

Harris Ottoson was arrested today on a warrant for Lewd or Lascivious Battery on a Victim 12 to 16 Years of Age; Lewd or Lascivious Molestation on a Victim 12 to 16 Years of Age Offender 18 Years of Age or Older; and Authority Figure Soliciting Lewd Conduct with Student. He was booked into the Gulf County Detention Facility and is awaiting first appearance.

The investigation is ongoing. At this time, it is unknown if there will be additional charges.

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