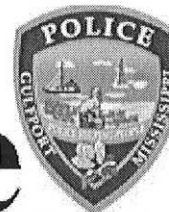


# City of Gulfport News Release

Police Department PIO

www.gulfport-ms.gov/police



Chief Alan Weatherford today announced that:

Case# 10-007915

On March, 16, 2010, at approximately 6:00 a.m. members of the United States Marshall Regional Fugitive Task Force took 32 year old Michael Mitchell of Crestview Florida and 30 year old Christina McMillen of Houston, Texas into custody on an outstanding warrant of grand larceny through the Gulfport Police Department.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> the Gulfport Police Department received three (03) separate complaints of theft by an individual impersonating a city water department employee. On all three (03) occasions Mitchell arrived at the victims' addresses advising he needed to check the water inside the residence for safety reasons. Mitchell then stole items from the residence and fled the scene in a newer model red Dodge one ton pickup. On all three (03) occasions Mitchell was accompanied by McMillen.

During the course of the investigation both Mitchell and McMillen were identified as suspects. Upon reviewing the underlying facts and circumstances with Justice Court Judge Louise Ladner she issued warrants for both Mitchell and McMillen for grand larceny both with a bond of \$50,000.00.

On March 15, 2010, the Gulfport Police Department received information on the possible whereabouts of both Mitchell and McMillen. Through this combined effort The United States Marshall Regional Fugitive Task Force then located Mitchell and McMillen in New Orleans, Louisiana where they were taken into custody and are currently housed in the Orleans Parrish Prison awaiting extradition back to Gulfport.

Through the course of the investigation it was learned that Mitchell is wanted out of Virginia and Alabama for similar crimes. McMillen is also wanted out of Alabama.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. Weatherford".

Approved for release by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: March 11, 2010