

The Badge



Towns County Sheriff's Office News



From the desk of Sheriff Ken Henderson:

As we approach summer, Towns County Sheriff's Office is preparing for one of the busiest times of the year.

I want to remind everyone to prioritize safety and responsibility during this season of relaxation and fun. Whether you are hiking, swimming, boating, or just spending time with family and friends, please be mindful of your surroundings and take steps to avoid accident or injury.

Due to increased outdoor activities and travel during the summer, please remind all drivers in your family to follow traffic laws and never drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Please ensure everyone traveling in the vehicle is wearing their seatbelt and it is properly buckled.

With the 4th of July approaching, please remember to practice safety. Fireworks can pose a fire and safety hazard to those who use them. Use caution when shooting fireworks and remember these safety tips.

- Read cautionary labels and the performance description before lighting a firework.
- Never give fireworks to children
- Wear eye protection when shooting fireworks
- Always use fireworks outdoors, away from buildings and vehicles
- Dispose of fireworks safely (went them down and place them in a metal trash can until the next day)

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy 4th of July.



MAY DRUG ARRESTS:



ALL PERSONS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.

TWO WANTED FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR

Failure to Appear bench warrants have been issued for Juwan Quintis Cabbell, age 27, and Keshawn James Means, age 22, both of Decatur, GA. Both bonded out of the Towns County Detention Center. Means was released on a \$14,000 bond and Cabbell was released on a \$6,000 bond.

These two individuals, along with another subject, were arrested in December 2022 during an investigation into an organized crime ring dealing in stolen construction equipment.

Cabbell and Means were to appear in Towns County court on June 9, 2023, but did not report.

Juwan Quintis Cabbell is charged with Failure to Appear on the following charges:

- Felony Theft by Conversion
- Obstruction of an Officer

Keshawn James Means is charged with Failure to Appear on the following charges:

- Felony Interference with Government Property
- Felony Aggravated Assault against Law Enforcement Officer
- Felony Fleeing/Attempting to Elude Police Officer
- Possession of Marijuana

Towns County Sheriff's Office is asking the public for any information leading to the location and arrest of these individuals. Call the Towns County Sheriff's Office at (706) 896-4444 or contact your local law enforcement.



****All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law***

DID YOU KNOW?

Towns County Sheriff's Office has a call-in program for shut-ins and elderly citizens here in Towns County that has been in operation since 2005.

The program is designed for Towns County Sheriff's Office to maintain daily contact with shut-ins and elderly citizens. The individuals contact our office at 706-896-4444 each morning, including weekends and holidays, to check-in by 10:00 AM.

If an individual does not call in by that time, one of our officers will go to their house to make sure they are ok and not in need of assistance. If you or your loved one is of this service please contact the Towns County Sheriff's Office at (706) 896-4444.

HOMEOWNER HOLDS BURGLARY SUSPECT AT GUNPOINT UNTIL DEPUTIES ARRIVE

On May 20, 2023, Towns County Sheriff's Office received a call to a residence on Gumlog Road regarding someone rummaging through vehicles.

Deputies arrived and two suspects were quickly identified as Hunter Adams and Travis Foskey. Investigators at the scene found other vehicles in the area had been entered.

A short time later, Sheriff's deputies received a call in the same area on Gumlog Road. The homeowner was holding a suspect at gunpoint. The victim, upon returning home, was met at the front door by the suspect wearing her husband's clothing. Further investigation revealed there had been forced entry into the residence.

When deputies arrived on the scene, the suspect attempted to run and was tackled by deputies and placed under arrest. The suspect was identified as Hunter Chase Adams, age 18, of Young Harris. Adams was arrested and charged with Felony Burglary, and 20 counts of Felony Entering an Automobile.

Investigators identified the second suspect and obtained warrants for his arrest. Travis Richard Foskey, age 21, of Young Harris was located and arrested the following morning. He is charged with Felony Burglary and 20 counts of Felony Entering an Automobile.

Sheriff Ken Henderson commends the homeowner for her quick action and holding the suspect until deputies arrived, and the deputies and investigators for the quick arrest of these suspects. This type of criminal activity is not an ever day occurrence in Towns County.

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



HOME INVASION VICTIM SPEAKS OUT

Ashlyn Vick, 27, spoke with Sheriff Ken Henderson regarding a home invasion encounter with Hunter Adams, 18, who had forced entry into her residence on May 20th. You can read about the incident in our June 1st post on the Towns County Sheriff's Office Facebook page.

Vick encountered Hunter Adams exiting her residence wearing her husband's clothing.

Vick quickly acted and secured her 9mm Ruger, placing Adam's in custody while her 11-year-old daughter called 911 and had her pepper spray handy. According to Mrs. Vick, her father had taught her how to shoot and handle a handgun. She stated she relied on her training to handle this stressful situation.

Adams and his accomplice, Travis Foskey, were being pursued by the Towns County Sheriff's Office for several vehicle break-ins in the area. Adam's forced entry into Vick's residence and vandalized the home.

Vick reminds everyone to always be alert to their surroundings.

Adams was arrested at the scene, and Foskey was later arrested. Both are currently incarcerated at the Towns County Detention Center.

Sheriff Henderson would like to commend Ashlyn Vick for her brave action in defending her home against a criminal act and for assisting the Towns County Sheriff's Office in the arrest of these individuals.



JUNE DRUG ARRESTS

A two-week investigation resulted in the arrest of two individuals on 6/15/23. The Towns County Sheriff's Office Drug Investigators, K-9 Team and Deputies arrested the store clerk at Streak Hill Store during a 4th amendment search of his camper in the back of the store which field test for methamphetamine was confiscated in his residence and on his person. Brian William Whitney, 42 of Hiawassee, GA was arrested and charged with felony possession of methamphetamine and Felony possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute.

During the search an individual was found who had an active failure to appear warrant out of Towns County. An inventory search of the wanted subjects vehicle revealed an amount of field tested Methamphetamine was confiscated. James Marlin Bailey, 41 of Young Harris, GA was arrested and charged with felony possession of methamphetamine and failure to appear.

Towns County Sheriff Ken Henderson stated that Citizens and Law Enforcement working together can have a huge impact on the drug activity that is plaguing our community and is pleased that Citizens are passing along information to combat this activity.



Brian William Whitney



James Marlin Bailey

Wednesday evening, June 27th, a traffic stop was conducted on Hwy 76 E by Sgt. Bryan Forsyth. Deputy Darringer Barrett deployed K-9 Xena to conduct a free air search of the vehicle, at which time K-9 Xena alerted on the vehicle.

Sgt. Forsyth discovered a hidden compartment on the vehicle which contained a white substance. A field test confirmed the substance to be Methamphetamine.

Dana Michelle Henson, age 43, Hiawassee was arrested and charged with Felony Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Marijuana.

Sheriff Ken Henderson states that Sgt. Forsyth used his training and expertise to locate the hidden compartment and commends Sgt. Forsyth for an outstanding job.



On Wednesday evening 6/27/23 Towns County Sheriff's Office Drug Investigators and patrol units conducted a traffic stop on Rice St. in the City of Hiawassee. It was discovered that the passenger was wanted for failure to appear. After further investigation and search the subject Dustin Shawn Bishop, 46 of Young Harris, GA was then taken into custody and found to have on his person an amount of methamphetamine laced with fentanyl that field tested positive on the scene.

Sheriff Henderson applauds the investigators and patrol units for their sharp eye and diligence in keeping our community safe.



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CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER ARRESTED IN TOWNS COUNTY

Late April 2023, residents of Tate City expressed concerns about a dangerous convicted sex offender living at 1057 Rhododendron Circle to Deputy Tony Petty.

Edward Compton Treisback, age 63, had been released from federal custody after serving his sentence for one count of Receipt of Child Pornography and two counts of Possession of Child Pornography, and was a fugitive from justice hiding out in Tate City.

A federal probation officer supplied Towns County Sheriff's Office with a copy of an arrest warrant for Treisback for probation violation.

After attempts to make contact with Treisback, on May 22nd, Towns County Sheriff's Office set up surveillance on the residence to ensure Treisback was inside. Deputies along with Sheriff Ken Henderson and Chief Deputy Gene Moss executed the arrest warrant. At that time, Treisback verbally threatened to kill a deputy and proceeded with an attempt to assault the deputy with a handsaw and punched the deputy in the face.

Treisback failed to comply with lawful commands, resisting arrest in an attempt to escape. Treisback was taken into custody using the necessary force to effect the arrest.

He is facing charges in Towns County for Felony Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Official and Obstruction of an Officer.

Treisback was turned over to the U.S. Marshalls facing federal charged.



SAFETY CHECK

Wednesday evening, June 28th, Towns County Sheriff's deputies, K-9s and investigators conducted a safety check in the Gumlog area.

According to Sheriff Henderson, Towns County Sheriff's Office will continue our proactive approach to help ensure our roadways and community are safe.

Safety checks will continue randomly throughout the county.



FIRST ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday, June 17th, Towns County First Responders were honored by the Summer Heat of Towns County Family Fun Day held at Foster Park. Summer Heat of Towns County is a not-for-profit organization formed to provide limited financial support for Towns County First Responders should they have a debilitating illness or injury after exhausting all means of financial support.

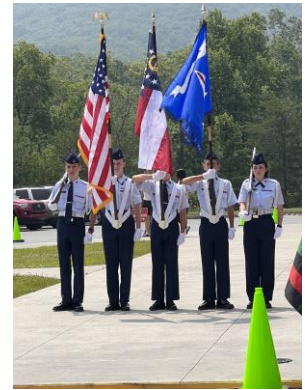
The event kicked off with Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw reading the Proclamation announcing the third Saturday of every June as First Responders Day in Towns County.

There was something for everyone. From games for the kids to ax throwing, craft for food vendors, dunk tank, silent auction, and raffles.

Roy Perren, Struck by Lightning, True Youngblood, and Cletus Way kept everyone entertained with some great music.

Another highlight was the Guns vs. Hoses kickball game where the Towns County Sheriff's Office defeated the Towns County Fire Department 13-7.

Sheriff Ken Henderson would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate and enjoy the day, as well as the Towns County Sheriff's Auxiliary, Volunteers, and the Summer Heat of Towns County Non-Profit for all their hard work, dedication, and continuing support of Towns County First Responders.



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter, please contact Community Relations Coordinator Jill Gittens at (706) 896-4444 or jgittenstcso@townscountyga.com

Towns County Sheriff's Office
4070 State Highway 339
Young Harris, GA 30582

(706) 896-4444
www.townscountysheriff.org