Press Release





August 29, 2023

For Immediate Release

Chief of Police Gerald Butler

Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer Ph. (386) 247-1148

One arrested in death of 12 year old

On Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 9:06 P.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department were dispatched to NW Long Street to the report of a person shot.

Upon arrival, officers located 12-year-old Mariah Smith, suffering from a gunshot wound. First aid was administered to Mariah, by officers and then by EMS. Unfortunately, she succumbed to her injuries.

During the investigation, many leads have been followed, which led to a suspect being developed. On Monday, August 28, 2023 Jatarious Rashad Fluellen, a 14-year-old, was arrested and charged with her Murder. More arrests are expected.

Anyone having information concerning this incident is asked to contact the Lake City Police Department at (386) 752-4343 and speak with Investigator Sapp.

Name: Fluellen II, Jatarious Rashad

DOB: 02/11/2009

Sex: Male
Race: Black
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown

Address: 883 NW Fowler Street Lake City, FL 32055

Charges: 1 count of Murder

2 counts of Attempted Murder





Report information anonymously by calling the LCPD TIPS line at 386-719-2068 or Crime Stoppers of Columbia County at 386-754-7099.

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