

# Press Release

**LAKE CITY**  
**POLICE**  
**DEPARTMENT**



*Chief of Police Gerald Butler*

**For Immediate Release**  
November 3, 2023

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

## One arrested for false report of robbery

On Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 1:00 A.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department were dispatched to Sago Glen to a 911 hang-up call.

Upon arrival, officers spoke with a male outside who stated they had not called 911 but they had heard a lot of noise across the street. Officers noticed the exterior of the residence where the male was standing was in disarray, as if a disturbance had just occurred. They contacted a female inside the residence. She also advised officers everything was fine. There were two children asleep in the residence at the time.

At 2:45 A.M., officers responded back to the area to the report of a male being stabbed. Upon arrival, officers discovered the same male from the earlier call with an injury to the back of his head. First aid was administered by officers until EMS arrived and transported the subject to a local hospital for further treatment. Officers followed a trail of blood from the location the injured subject was located, back to the same residence on Sago Glen. Officers attempted to conduct a well-being check on the occupants and discovered a crime scene inside including blood and a broken knife. No other persons were located inside the residence.

A neighborhood canvas was conducted and officers were unable to locate the other occupants of the residence. Out of concern for the well-being of the female and the two children, officers called for the assistance of air units from the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Additional resources were also requested from Florida Department of Corrections K-9 teams to conduct a ground search as well as a thermal drone search conducted by the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. After approximately six hours of searching, the three missing persons were located asleep in a neighboring apartment.

During the course of the investigation, Cory Armstrong continued to give statements to investigators which did not match the physical evidence at the scene. While attempting to investigate the reported robbery, investigators reviewed surveillance video of the areas Armstrong reported he was in when the incident occurred. Investigators were unable to locate the incident on video nor were they able to observe Armstrong in the area. The blood trail leading from Armstrong led to the residence, which he had denied returning to after the alleged robbery, and no evidence of blood was located between where he was located and the location of the reported robbery. The path was walked by investigators as well as by K-9 officers attempting to track the suspect but



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neither were able to locate evidence of the robbery. Evidence located at the residence included a blood trail leading to Armstrong, along with a broken knife also with blood on it.

After consultation with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office, investigators prepared an arrest warrant for Armstrong. The arrest warrant was reviewed and signed by a judge. Armstrong was located and taken into custody without further incident.

"I am proud of the efforts put forth by the officers and investigators in this case. I want to thank the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Department of Corrections K-9 Teams and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office for their assistance in locating the persons believed to have been missing and possibly injured in the early hours of this investigation. The crime scene led us to believe a violent incident had occurred based on the blood and broken knife. Not being able to locate the missing female and two children, we asked for and received additional resources to assist in the search," stated Chief of Police Gerald Butler. "During the judicial process, if found guilty, Cory Armstrong can be forced to pay for costs of these additional resources as they would have not been needed had he not made false statements to law enforcement."

**Name:** Armstrong, Cory Jerome Jr.  
**DOB:** 08/06/1991  
**Sex:** Male  
**Race:** Black  
**Hair:** Black  
**Eyes:** Brown  
**Address:** 205 SW 75<sup>th</sup> St Apt 2R Gainesville, FL 32607  
**Charges:** Knowingly Give False Information to Law Enforcement



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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