

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



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@LCFlaPD

Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

March 13, 2024

Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer

Ph. (386) 247-1148

Altercation leads to gunfire, one arrested

On Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 5:45 A.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department were dispatched to 3598 W US Hwy 90, Baymont Inn, to the report of an armed and dangerous person.

Upon arrival, officers spoke with two victims who advised a white male wearing an orange shirt had a firearm and had fired multiple shots into a dark colored vehicle as it was leaving the parking lot. The dark colored vehicle drove to the Lake City Police Department to report the incident. None of the three occupants of the vehicle were injured.

During the investigation, it was discovered that Thomas William Peters III, date of birth 08/19/1975, was in Lake City visiting friends when he became involved in a dispute on social media with one of the victims in the vehicle. Peters and the victim agreed to meet in the parking lot of the Baymont Inn to fight and settle their differences. The two did meet and after the fight, during which Peters was not victorious, Peters returned to his rented room and retrieved a firearm and began looking for the individual with whom he had fought.

During his search, Peters encountered two innocent bystanders who were walking to their vehicle. Peters pointed his firearm at the two until he realized they were not for whom he was looking, Peters then continued his search.

Peters located and began chasing the subject with whom he had been fighting, and who was now with two other individuals. All three entered a car and as the driver of the car reversed out of the parking spot, Peters stepped in front of the vehicle and began shooting into the vehicle.

Officers located Peters, who was still at the Baymont Inn, and he was arrested without incident and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center.

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



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Name: Peters, Thomas William
DOB: 08/19/1975
Sex: Male
Race: White
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Address: 2839 Featherstone Drive, Holiday, FL 34691
Charges: 3 counts Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon
2 counts Aggravated Assault without intent to kill
6 counts Discharging a Weapon on Residential Property



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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