

# Press Release

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



*Chief of Police Gerald Butler*

**For Immediate Release**  
May 29, 2025

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

## Child Abuse and Firearm Possession by Convicted Felon Arrest

On Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at approximately 8:45 P.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department responded to 2860 SW Windsong Circle, Apartment 304, in reference to a disturbance involving concerns for the welfare of children.

Upon arrival, officers made contact with the reporting party, who stated that her boyfriend, Deondre Clayton, had refused to allow access to their children during a domestic dispute. While on scene, officers were advised that Clayton had made threats over the phone to harm one of the children if police arrived. Officers successfully convinced Clayton to exit the apartment peacefully and escorted him downstairs while the mother was allowed inside to check on the children, who were located safe and unharmed.

Detectives and officers began an investigation into allegations that Clayton had struck one of the children the previous day, resulting in visible bruising. The child, who has developmental challenges, identified Clayton as the individual who had caused the injuries. Officers also recovered a Glock .40 caliber handgun with multiple magazines and rounds of ammunition hidden in the apartment. Clayton, a convicted felon, was the only adult present capable of accessing the weapon, which was submitted to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for testing.

Deondre Clayton was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center. He faces charges of child abuse and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Officers confirmed Clayton has five prior felony convictions.

"This department takes every allegation of child endangerment seriously," stated Chief of Police Gerald Butler. "The safety of our children is paramount, and we will continue to act swiftly and decisively to protect them. We are also committed to holding accountable anyone who unlawfully possesses or misuses firearms in our community."

Anyone with information on any crime is encouraged to contact the Lake City Police Department at (386) 752-4343 or report information anonymously through the LCPD TIPS line at (386) 719-2068 or Crime Stoppers of Columbia County at (386) 754-7099.



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*Chief of Police Gerald Butler*

**Name:** Clayton, Deondre Shykur  
**DOB:** 12/14/1994  
**Sex/Race:** Male/Black  
**Hair/Eyes:** Black/Brown  
**Charge(s):** 648 SW Amberwood Loop #102, Lake City, FL 32025  
Discharging a Firearm in Public  
Criminal Mischief



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