

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

May 7, 2025

Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer

Ph. (386) 247-1148

Attempted Murder Suspect Arrested

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at approximately 2:27 P.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department responded to a FLOCK gunshot detection alert in the area of NW Railroad Street. Witnesses in the area confirmed hearing five to six gunshots and observed a small, brown vehicle fleeing the scene at a high rate of speed.

An officer observed a black male near a grey Mazda sedan appearing to pick up shell casings from the roadway. Upon noticing law enforcement, the suspect, later identified as Jakai Williams, entered the vehicle and fled. Officers attempted a traffic stop, but the suspect eluded capture, driving recklessly through city streets. The pursuit was called off due to public safety concerns, and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office was notified.

A short time later, Columbia County deputies located the suspect vehicle and apprehended Williams near SW Linden Loop following a brief pursuit.

Further investigation revealed that Williams had approached a cyclist, shouted a threat, exited the vehicle, and fired multiple rounds in the victim's direction before fleeing. The victim was not injured and later positively identified Williams and the vehicle used in the incident.

A search of the vehicle resulted in the recovery of a Taurus 9mm handgun with a high-capacity magazine containing 28 rounds, a second magazine, 4.5 grams of marijuana, and an open container of Mike's Hard Lemonade. Five spent shell casings recovered at the scene were found to match the ammunition located in the vehicle.

Williams invoked his Fifth Amendment right and refused to speak with officers. He was placed under arrest and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center.

"The FLOCK system continues to demonstrate its value by enabling officers to respond to gun-related incidents quickly and effectively," stated Chief of Police Gerald Butler. "Thanks to the rapid coordination between our officers and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, a dangerous suspect was apprehended before anyone could be seriously harmed. We are grateful for the partnership and support from Sheriff Kitchings and his staff in ensuring public safety."



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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.

Name: Williams, Jakai Montez
DOB: 01/01/2003
Sex/Race: Male/White
Hair/Eyes: Brown /Brown
Charge(s): 1685 SW King Street, Lake City, FL 32024
Attempted Murder
Aggravated Assault
Discharging a Firearm in Public
Possession of less than 20 grms of Marijuana
Attempting to Flee and Elude Law Enforcement
Reckless Driving
Improper Exhibition of a Firearm



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