

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

November 19, 2025

Ashley Hardison, Public Information Officer

Ph. 386.719-5742

Drunk Driver Damages School Property

On Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at approximately 8:25 P.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department responded to the area of SW McFarlane Ave in reference to a reckless driver.

Officers observed a black Ford F-150 leaving the Summers Elementary School parking lot with no headlights and conducted a traffic stop. The driver, later identified as Jacob Ames, showed obvious signs of impairment, admitted to drinking, had trouble providing his documents, and refused both field sobriety exercises and breath testing.

While speaking with Mr. Ames, officers noticed damage to the school's gate that matched damage on Mr. Ames' truck. The school principal confirmed the damage to the gate was new.

A records check revealed Mr. Ames had prior DUI-related incidents and a previous refusal. The truck was towed, and during the inventory, officers found a mostly empty 12-pack of beer inside.

Mr. Ames was placed under arrest for violation of F.S.S. 810.097.1 trespassing on school grounds, F.S.S. 316.061 leaving the scene of a crash involving property damage, F.S.S. 316.1939.1 refuse to submit to DUI test, and F.S.S. 316.193.3c1 DUI of alcohol. Mr. Ames was also issued a DUI citation, (0587-XGB).

Mr. Ames was transported to the local hospital where he was medically cleared before being transferred to the Columbia County Jail.

Name: Ames, Jacob

DOB: 12/6/1999

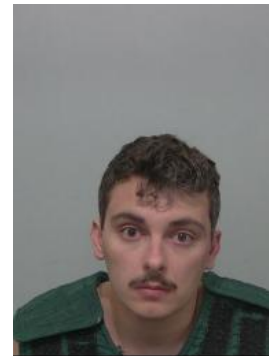
Sex: Male

Race: White

Hair: Brown

Eyes: Brown

Charges: F.S.S. 810.097.1 trespassing on school grounds
F.S.S. 316.061 leaving the scene of a crash involving property damage
F.S.S. 316.1939.1 refuse to submit to DUI test
F.S.S. 316.193.3c1 DUI of alcohol.



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