

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

June 24, 2026

Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer

Ph. (386) 247-1148

Homicide Victim Identified

On June 23, 2026, at approximately 10:52 a.m., officers with the Lake City Police Department responded to the area of NW Albright Place following a report of a person who had been shot.

Upon arrival, officers located an adult Black male suffering from apparent gunshot wounds. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The victim has been identified as Jayveon Montroll Hall, 24, of Lake City. Mr. Hall's next of kin have been notified.

As the investigation progressed, detectives identified the suspect as Willie Kyedell Thomas, DOB 01/25/2001.

Investigators developed information regarding Thomas's location, and law enforcement officers responded to apprehend him. After refusing to comply with commands, Thomas was apprehended following the deployment of a law enforcement K-9.

Thomas was taken into custody and transported to a local hospital for medical evaluation. Following his release from the hospital, he will be interviewed by detectives and booked into the Columbia County Detention Facility. Appropriate criminal charges are forthcoming.

The investigation remains active as detectives continue processing evidence, conducting interviews, and coordinating with the Office of the State Attorney.

Chief Gerald Butler expressed his condolences to the victim's family and loved ones.

"On behalf of the men and women of the Lake City Police Department, I want to extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Jayveon Hall during this difficult time. No family should have to endure the loss of a loved one to violence. Our thoughts and prayers remain with those who knew and loved him as they navigate this tragic loss."

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Amanda Pepin at 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.



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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