

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

December 6, 2024

Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer

Ph. (386) 247-1148

Two arrested after report of theft

On Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 8:00 P.M., an officer from the Lake City Police Department who was working an off duty detail at 2767 W US Hwy 90, Walmart, were alerted to the theft of a wallet which had just occurred.

The officer reviewed in-store surveillance footage and observed the suspect taking the wallet. A description of the suspect was promptly shared with all on-duty officers. Shortly afterward, it was reported that a credit card from the stolen wallet had been used in an attempt at another nearby merchant.

Officers responded to the area and were able to locate Lacey Mae Wilson, who was still in possession of the stolen items. During the investigation, officers discovered that both Wilson and Randall Gerald Ratliff, who was accompanying Wilson, had outstanding warrants for their arrest.

Wilson and Ratliff were taken into custody and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center without further incident.

"I would like to take this opportunity to remind our citizens to be vigilant with their personal belongings and items they have purchased while shopping during the holiday season." Stated Chief of Police Gerald Butler "Not everyone is as honest as we'd hope, and unfortunately, the holiday season can bring an increase in thefts and opportunistic crimes. By staying aware of your surroundings and taking precautions, you can significantly reduce the risk of becoming a victim."

Tips for Staying Safe While Shopping:

Stay Alert: Keep your attention on your surroundings and avoid distractions like your phone when walking to and from stores or your vehicle.

Secure Your Items: Always lock your car and ensure shopping bags or valuable items are stored out of sight, preferably in the trunk.



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Travel Smart: Shop during daylight hours if possible, and park in well-lit areas. If shopping at night, consider shopping with a friend or family member.

Guard Your Valuables: Keep purses zipped, wallets secure, and avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Use credit or debit cards when possible.

Report Suspicious Activity: If you notice unusual behavior or someone loitering near vehicles or store entrances, report it to security or law enforcement immediately.

Name: Wilson, Lacey Mae
DOB: 10/17/1984
Sex/Race: Female/White
Hair/Eyes: Brown/Brown
Address: 354 McCall Terrace, Lake City, FL 32055
Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Outstanding Warrant)
Petit Theft
Fraudulent use of A Credit Card
Drug Possession
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia



Name: Ratliff, Randall Gerald
DOB: 12/25/1984
Sex/Race: Male/White
Hair/Eyes: Bald/Brown
Address: 354 McCall Terrace, Lake City, FL 32055
Charges: Resist Officer without Violence (Outstanding Warrant)
Driving while License Suspended (Outstanding Warrant)
Passing a Forged Check (Outstanding Warrant)



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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