

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

January 6, 2025

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Explosions leads to arrest

On Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 2:30 A.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department responded to the area of NE Jackson Avenue for an alert from the FLOCK Gunshot Detection System.

While attending to an unrelated call for service, a loud explosion was heard in the vicinity of NE Jackson Avenue. Upon investigating, officers observed gray smoke emanating from the yard of a vacant residence. A melted plastic soda bottle was identified as the source of the smoke. Additional melted plastic soda bottles, also emitting gray smoke, were discovered in the yard.

The Lake City Fire Department was requested to assist due to the potential presence of hazardous chemicals. During the investigation, officers evacuated the residents of 759 NE Jackson Avenue as a precaution until the source of the chemicals inside the plastic soda bottles could be determined.

The investigation revealed that Matthew Paul Mixon had mixed two chemical compounds inside the plastic soda bottles, shaken them, and thrown them into the neighboring yard to observe the explosions.

Mixon was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center.

Name: Mixon, Matthew Paul
DOB: 04/11/1989
Sex/Race: Male/White
Hair/Eyes: Bald/ Brown
Address: 759 NE Jackson Avenue, Lake City, FL 32055
Charges: Make or Attempt to make Destructive Device
Disturbing the Peace



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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