

# Press Release

**LAKE CITY**  
**POLICE**  
**DEPARTMENT**



*Chief of Police Gerald Butler*

**For Immediate Release**  
March 4, 2025

**Greg Burnsed, Public Information Officer**  
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## Man Arrested Following Road Rage Incident

On Monday, March 3, 2025, at approximately 11:52 A.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department responded to the area of South Main Boulevard and Brown Street following a report of an individual brandishing a firearm during a road rage incident.

The complainant reported that while driving southbound on South Main Boulevard, the driver of a black Nissan Frontier pickup pointed a firearm at him. Fearing for his safety, the complainant fled the area and located a Columbia County Sheriff's Office deputy to report the incident. The suspect's vehicle was quickly located traveling southbound on US-41 before turning eastbound onto SE County Road 252, where Columbia County Sheriff's Office deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Peacock Terrace.

During the investigation, it was determined that Joe R. Markham exited his vehicle, pulled a black handgun, and pointed it in the direction of the complainant. A subsequent search of Markham's vehicle uncovered a black Ruger Mark Two .22 caliber handgun, which closely matched the complainant's description.

"I urge all drivers to remain calm and avoid escalating situations on the road," stated Chief of Police Gerald Butler. "If confronted with an aggressive driver, individuals should prioritize safety by distancing themselves from the aggressor and calling 911 immediately, as was done in this incident."

Markham was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Detention Center without incident.

**Name:** Markham, Joe R.  
**DOB:** 08/03/1959  
**Sex/Race:** Male/White  
**Hair/Eyes:** Brown/Brown  
**Address:** 824 SE Myrtis Dortch Street, Lake City, FL 32055  
**Charges:** Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon  
Improper Exhibition of a Firearm



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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