

Sheriff



Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234
Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

October 21, 2015

FWB SHOOTING VICTIM FACES CHARGE OF BURGLARY WITH BATTERY



James Mills

A Fort Walton Beach man shot following a fight at a home in Mary Esther July 28th now faces charges of his own.

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office has arrested 26-year old James David Mills for burglary with battery or assault.

Deputies responding to the shooting found Mills had been shot in the chin following an altercation at his ex-girlfriend's house, 813 Hilltop Road. Mills was taken by helicopter to Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola for treatment.

The shooter, 28-year old Dustin Cooper of Navarre, was charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.



Dustin Cooper

During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Mills went into his ex-girlfriend's residence, found Cooper hiding inside a bedroom closet, and beat Cooper severely. As Mills was leaving on his motorcycle, Cooper shot him, then fled to his home in Santa Rosa County.

Deputies located Cooper and prior to his arrest took him to Gulf Breeze Medical Center for treatment of his injuries.

Investigators say Mills' is part-owner of the Hilltop Road residence where the shooting took place, but does not live there and his former girlfriend says he came in uninvited.

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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the
Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal
opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED

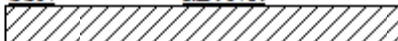
OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007296

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jail Booking No | Offense No OCSO15OFF009438 | Other No OCSO15CAD135207 | OBTS 461105132 |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|

[SUSPECT]

Last First Middle Title Race Sex DOB Age Hgt Wgt
MILLS **JAMES** **DAVID** **W** **M** **1/4/1989** **26** **510** **200**

Eyes Hair MNI Number SSN ID. No. St Type OCA/Agency ID
HAZ **BRO** **OCSO02MNI021354**  **FL** **E** **207700**

Birth Location: City: FT WALTON BCH County: OKALOOSA State: FLORIDA Nation: UNITED STATES Citizenship: UNITED STATES

Address

556 POCAHONTAS DR FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32547

Occupations (Current/Last Known is Listed First)

Business: RAEGEN HARPER REAL ESTATES INV, Job Title: OWNER, Entered: 6/17/2015 10:09:21 AM
 FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32547

Business: RAEGEN HARPER REAL ESTATES INV, Job Title: OWNER, Entered: 12/28/2013
 FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32547

Business: UNEMPLOYED, Job Title: , Entered: 8/9/2011

Business: GILMORE MOVING AND STORAGE, Job Title: LABOR, Entered: 3/2/2009

Suite:

Business: UNEMPLOYED, Job Title: , Entered: 12/9/2008

Suite:

Business: NWF STATE COLLEGE, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 10/24/2008

Suite:

Business: GILMORE'S MOVERS & STORAGE, Job Title: MOVER, Entered: 4/8/2006

Suite:

Business: CHOCTAW HIGH SCHOOL, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 8/16/2004

110 NW RACETRACK RD Suite: FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32548

Business: CHOCTAWHATCHEE HS, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 8/16/2004

Suite:

Business: PRYOR MIDDLE SCHOOL, Job Title: STUDENT, Phone: (850)833-3600 Entered: 12/19/2002

201 NW RACETRACK RD Suite: FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32548

Aliases (Last, First Middle Title DOB)

, 1/9/1989

Street Names

* none found in MNI *

[INCIDENT INFORMATION]

Occurred Date Range: 7/28/2015 13:27 to 7/28/2015 13:27 Lat / Long 30.41275 / -86.73564

| No. | Di | Street | Apt/Lot | City | ST | Zip | (GEO) |
|-----|----|------------|---------|-------------|----|-------|------------|
| 603 | | SKYLARK DR | | MARY ESTHER | FL | 32569 | 2 - 23 - - |

[CHARGES]

810.02.2a

BURGL

WITH ASSAULT OR BATTERY

| Counts | Level | Degree | GOC | UCR | NCIC | AON | Bond Amount |
|--------|--------|--------|-----------|------|------|------|-------------|
| 1 | Felony | First | Principal | 2200 | | 2299 | |

[STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE / NARRATIVE]

On 07-28-15, at approximately 1325 hours, Okaloosa County Deputies responded to 603 Skylark Avenue, Mary Esther, Florida, in reference to a shooting. Upon arrival, deputies made contact with James Mills. Mills stated that he

COPY

COPY

WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007296

had been shot by Dustin Cooper while at Shena Sessum's residence (Mills ex-girlfriend), located nearby at 813 Hilltop Road. Mills was then life flighted to Sacred Heart Medical Center in Pensacola, Florida. At that time, Mills was only considered as a shooting victim. Investigator Mike Smith responded to the hospital to interview Mills.

During the course of the interview with Mills, it was discovered that Mills went into Sessum's residence, and located Cooper inside, hiding in a bedroom closet. An altercation between the two ensued, in which Cooper was severely beaten, and put into a "sleeper" hold. Mills stated that when he attempted to leave the residence on his motorcycle, he was confronted by Cooper brandishing a firearm. Cooper then shot Mills, with the bullet piercing Mills motorcycle helmet, and then entering an area just above his chin and exiting through his left cheek.

Cooper, who fled the area after the shooting, was located in Santa Rosa County by their deputies at Cooper's residence. Cooper was detained, and transported to Gulf Breeze Medical Center for treatment. During the transport, Cooper was read Miranda and exercised his right to have an attorney present, but not before telling me that he couldn't remember what happened. Per Doctor Edler, who was working in the emergency room, Cooper had a laceration under his tongue, hemorrhaging in his left eye, swelling on the top left cheek area, tender right clavicle, and tenderness to the C7 cervical vertebra. His upper lip was lacerated to the point that the lip needed to be sutured together. Upon Cooper's release from the hospital, he was arrested for the shooting. At that time, Cooper stated that he also wanted to pursue criminal charges for the altercation.

Per Shena Sessum, Cooper had brought her home from the Red Rose Bar, and slept at her residence that night. When Cooper located by Mills, an altercation erupted. Sessum and Mills both stated that Mills is part owner of the residence, but does not reside there. Sessum further stated that Mills made entry without being invited in.

A review of Mills criminal history indicates previous convictions for aggravated battery, battery and other violent crimes.

Based upon the fact that defendant James D. Mills entered the residence without authorization, and opened the bedroom closet door in an apparent attempt to locate the victim, which resulted in an altercation with victim Dustin C. Cooper, I have reason to believe and do believe that the defendant violated F.S.S. 810.02(2)(a), burglary with a battery. This offense did occur in Okaloosa County, Florida, where your affiant is a sworn law enforcement officer.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| _____ | STANFORD, RACHEL A | 237 |
| Signature (Arresting Officer) | Name | ID/SSN |

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this 21 day of October A.D., 2015 by _____ who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification.

Signature _____ Notary Public _____ LEO _____ CO

Commission No: _____ My Commission Expires _____

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Supervisor Signature | Date | Supervisor Name (Please Print) | Rank |

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007296

[PHYSICAL EVIDENCE] [NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE LISTED]

[ARREST INFORMATION]

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Arrested | Residency | Injured | Extent of Injury | Resist |
| 10/20/2015 10:06 | Within jurisdiction | None | N/A | No |
| | Arrested Prior | Arrest Jurisdiction | Alcohol | Drugs |
| | Yes | Within jurisdiction | Unknown | Unknown |
| No. | Di | Street | A/L | City |
| 1940 | | LEWIS TURNER BD | | FORT WALTON BEAC FL |
| | | | | ST Zip |
| | | | | 32547 |
| | | | | Lat / Long |
| | | | | 30.46639 / -86.62056 |
| Arresting Officer | | Unit | (GEO) | 2 - 19 - PG40 - K-37 Officer Type |
| 237 STANFORD, RACHEL A | | OCSO/ADMINSERV/COURTSEC/DETENTION | | |
| Reporting Officer | | Unit | | Original Offense Jurisdiction |
| 069 UPTMOR, PATRICK J | | OCSO/FSV/INV/CID | | OCSO |
| Forward to for approval | | | | |
| OCSO/FSV/INV | | | | |

Bond Set by LEO at Time of Arrest & Booking: \$0.00

- None
- ROR
- Cash
- Pro

| | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Bond Set by Judge | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> ROR/Sign |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash | <input type="checkbox"/> PTR |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Any | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Pro | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> PtIQ | |

Purge SCANNED

SC

Return Court: CIRCUIT COURT: FELONY Date: 12/8/2015 Time: 15:30

Instructions: 1940 LEWIS TURNER BLVD FORT WALTON BEACH FLORIDA

[COURT INFORMATION]

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Court | Judge | Date |
| Sent | | |
| Rcvd | CIRCUIT | GRINSTED |
| | | 8/19/2015 |
| Court Case Number 15-9438 | | |

Assigned To:

[DISPOSITION]

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Disposition Type</u> | <u>Release Type</u> | <u>Other Desc</u> |
| <u>Release Date</u> | <u>Release Time</u> | <u>Release Officer</u> |
| | | <u>Printed</u> <u>Printed By</u> |
| | | No |
| <u>Released To</u> | | |

COPY

COPY

WARRANT/OTIC SERVED

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007296

Court DispositionType

Court Disposition Description

[ADDITIONAL PERSONS]

COURT DISPOSITION: _____

(right index)

- No Bill / Petition
- Issue Warrant
- Prosecution Approved

Signature of Assistant State Attorney

Date

COPY

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ARREST REPORT
REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007281

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Jail Booking No | Offense No OCSO15OFF009438 | Other No OCSO15CAD135207 | OBTS |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|

[SUSPECT]

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| <u>Last</u> | <u>First</u> | <u>Middle</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Race</u> | <u>Sex</u> | <u>DOB</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Hgt</u> | <u>Wgt</u> |
| COOPER | DUSTIN | CHASE | | W | M | 4/17/1987 | 28 | 509 | 200 |
| <u>Eyes</u> | <u>Hair</u> | <u>MNI Number</u> | <u>SSN</u> | <u>LD No</u> | <u>St</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>OCA/Agency ID</u> | | |
| HAZ | BRO | OCSO00MNI015875 | | | FL | E | 188190 | | |

Birth Location: City: FT WALTON BCH County: OKALOOSA State: FLORIDA Nation: U.S.A. Citizenship: U.S.
Address

6627 WATER ST NAVARRE FL 32566

Occupations (Current/Last Known is Listed First)

- Business: COOPERS DETAILING, Job Title: , Entered: 6/8/2011
- Business: COOPERS DETAILING, Job Title: OWNER, Phone: 850-217-7196 Entered: 2/18/2011
- Suite:
- Business: , Job Title: UNEMPLOYED, Entered: 10/9/2007
- Suite:
- Business: CHILIS, Job Title: SERVER, Entered: 6/18/2007
- Suite:
- Business: , Job Title: UNEMPLOYED, Entered: 2/19/2007
- Suite:
- Business: LEGENDARY MARINA, Job Title: ASSIT MANAGER, Phone: (850)337-8300 Entered: 10/29/2006
- Suite:
- Business: AMERICAN MOVING COMPANY, Job Title: MOVER, Entered: 6/8/2006
- Suite:
- Business: LEGENDARY MARINA, Job Title: DETAILER, Entered: 3/5/2006
- Suite:
- Business: AMERICAN MOVING, Job Title: LABORER, Entered: 6/27/2005
- Suite:
- Business: DJJ, Job Title: , Entered: 8/30/2004
- Suite:
- Business: HOLIDAY INN, Job Title: WAITER, Entered: 2/3/2004
- Suite:
- Business: CRAB ISLANDER, Job Title: WAITER, Entered: 2/2/2004
- Suite:
- Business: UNEMPLOYED, Job Title: , Entered: 1/4/2004
- Suite:
- Business: EMERALD COAST MARINE INSTITUTE, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 2/12/2003
- Suite:
- Business: HOME SCHOOL, Job Title: STUDENT, Phone: 850 Entered: 4/16/2002
- Suite:
- Business: OKALOOSA YOUTH ACADEMY, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 1/29/2001
- Suite:
- Business: PRYOR MIDDLE SCHOOL, Job Title: STUDENT, Entered: 8/8/2000
- 201 NW RACETRACK RD Suite: FORT WALTON BEACH FL 32548

Aliases (Last, First Middle Title DOB)

* none found in MNI *

Street Names
COOP

COPY

ARREST REPORT

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007281

[INCIDENT INFORMATION]

Occurred Date Range: 7/28/2015 13:27 to 7/28/2015 13:27 Lat / Long 30.41275 / -86.73564
No. Di Street Apt/Lot City ST Zip (GEO)
813 HILLTOP ROAD MARY ESTHER FL 32569 2 - 23 - -

[CHARGES]

784.045.1A2

AGG BATT

PERSON USES A DEADLY WEAPON

Table with 7 columns: Counts, Level, Degree, GOC, UCR, NCIC, AON, Bond Amount. Row 1: 1, Felony, Second, Principal, 130A, 1318

790.23.1a

POSSESS OF WEAPON

OR AMMO BY CONVICTED FLA FELON

Table with 7 columns: Counts, Level, Degree, GOC, UCR, NCIC, AON, Bond Amount. Row 1: 1, Felony, Second, Principal, 9000, 5212

[STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE / NARRATIVE]

On 07-28-15, at approximately 1325 hours, Okaloosa County Deputies responded to 603 Skylark Avenue, Mary Esther, Florida, in reference to a shooting. Upon arrival, they made contact with the victim James Mills, who had been shot with a firearm in his face. Mills stated that he had been shot by Dustin Cooper while in front of another nearby residence, located at 813 Hilltop Road, Florida. Mills provided a more detailed statement to investigators once he arrived at Sacred Heart Medical Center, where he was life flighted to.

Deputies then responded to the scene of the incident, but defendant, Dustin Cooper had already fled the area in a silver in color Toyota RAV4. Cooper was later located at his residence, 6627 Water Street, Navarre, Florida by Santa Rosa County Deputies. Cooper had obviously been involved in a recent altercation, and after being detained, was transported by EMS to Gulf Breeze Medical Center, where he was treated and released from hospital care. While en route to the hospital, Cooper was read Miranda and invoked his right to legal counsel prior to providing a statement.

Victim, James Mills provided a detailed interview to Investigator Mike Smith while at Sacred Heart Medical Center. Mills stated that he went to Shena Sessum's residence (his ex-girlfriend), which is located at 813 Hilltop Road, Mary Esther, Florida. Mills stated that he went inside the house, and located Cooper hiding inside the bedroom closet. An altercation ensued in which both parties received some physical injuries, however, Mills had put Cooper in a "sleeper hold" which temporarily ended the altercation. While Mills attempted to depart the yard and retrieve his motorcycle, Cooper emerged from the residence. As Mills was departing on his motorcycle, he was approached by Cooper, who was now armed with a pistol. Cooper then fired at Mills, striking the front of his motorcycle helmet. The bullet went through a portion of Mills' helmet. The round entered Mills through an area just above his chin and exited through his left cheek area. According to Mills, Cooper told him prior to shooting, "You're dead Mother-fucker".

Witness, Shena Sessum advised after the altercation occurred inside the residence she and Mills were talking on the front porch when Cooper emerged from inside the residence. Sessum stated another physical altercation occurred between Cooper and Mills, at which time, Mills attempted to retrieve his motorcycle, which was parked a couple houses away. When Mills attempted to depart the area on his motorcycle, Sessum observed Cooper who was armed with a firearm approach Mills. Sessum stated she heard Cooper say "I'm going to kill you", at which time she ran back into the residence to call 9-1-1.

Based upon the above information, I have reason to believe and do believe the defendant, Dustin Chase Cooper, did violate F.S.S. 784.045(1)(a)(2), Aggravated Battery with a deadly weapon. In addition, Cooper is a convicted felon, and as such, violated F.S.S. 790.23(1)(a), Possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in this state. These offenses did occur in Okaloosa County Florida, where your affiant is a sworn law enforcement officer.

I hereby swear (or affirm) that the facts established on this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ARREST REPORT
REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007281

Signature (Arresting Officer) UPTMOR, PATRICK J Name 069 ID/SSN

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this 29 day of July A.D., 2015 by _____ who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification.

Signature _____ Notary Public _____ LEO _____ CO

Commission No: _____ My Commission Expires _____

[PHYSICAL EVIDENCE] [NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE LISTED]

[ARREST INFORMATION]

Arrested 7/28/2015 18:30 Residency Within state Injured Arrestee Extent of Injury Minor (treated in hospital) Resist No
Arrested Prior Yes Arrest Jurisdiction Within state Alcohol Unknown Drugs Yes
No. 1040 Di Street GULF BREEZE PARKWAY A/L City GULF BREEZE ST FL Zip 32561 Lat / Long 30.41275 / -86.73564
Arresting Officer 069 UPTMOR, PATRICK J Unit OCSO/FSV/INV/CID (GEO) - - - Officer Type
Reporting Officer 069 UPTMOR, PATRICK J Unit OCSO/FSV/INV/CID Original Offense Jurisdiction OCSO
Forward to for approval OCSO/FSV/INV/CID

Bond Set by LEO at Time of Arrest & Booking \$0.00
() None
() ROR
() Cash
() Pro

Bond Set by Judge () None () ROR/Sign
() Cash () PTR
() Any
() Pro
() PtIQ
() Purge
() SC

Return Court: CIRCUIT COURT: FELONY Date: 9/8/2015 Time: 15:30
Instructions: OKALOOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX EXT

[DISPOSITION]

Disposition Type Release Type Other Desc

COPY

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ARREST REPORT

REPORT NO: OCSO15ARR007281

Release Date Release Time Release Officer

Printed Printed By
No

Released To

Court Disposition Type

Court Disposition Description

[ADDITIONAL PERSONS]

COURT DISPOSITION:

(right index)

- No Bill / Petition
- Issue Warrant
- Prosecution Approved

Signature of Assistant State Attorney

Date

COPY