



HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

TROY J. PETERSON
SHERIFF

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*****PRESS RELEASE*****
For Immediate Release

On June 20, 2017, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of 32 year old Terry Joseph Ladner and 34 year old Tara Elizabeth Waltman who resides in the 9100 Block of Firetower Rd. in Pass Christian, MS, on three felony counts each of kidnapping.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, the Harrison County Sheriff's Department responded to the Firetower Rd. address to serve a court order taking custody of Terry and Tara's children. Upon making contact, Terry and Tara armed themselves with firearms and moved the children and themselves to an old school bus located behind their home that was surrounded by high foliage. In the course of attempting to speak with Terry and Tara, Terry fired a shot from the firearm he possessed. Additional deputies and investigators responded to the scene to assist. After additional deputies arrived on scene, Terry and Tara moved from the school bus back into the primary residence. As deputies were repositioning themselves, Terry fired a second round in an attempt to have the deputies back away.

An investigator with the Sheriff's Department was able to establish communication with Terry and Tara and was able to defuse the volatile situation. A third party inside the residence was also on the phone with a different Harrison County Deputy. After approximately two hours, Terry and Tara exited their residence unarmed and were taken into custody with no further incident. The children were uninjured and safely turned over to family members. No charges were filed regarding Ladner discharging the gun. Several weapons were seized from the residence. No one was injured during the incident.

Terry Ladner and Tara Waltman were booked into the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility and charged with three counts each of kidnapping. Ladner and Waltman are being held in lieu of a \$75,000 dollar bond each set by Justice Court Judge Louise D. Ladner.

Investigative Officer: Sgt. Joe Sturm _____

Arresting Officer(s): Sgt. Joe Sturm / Deputy Cody Crosby _____

Approved For Release: _____

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi