



HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TROY J. PETERSON
SHERIFF

P.O. BOX 1480 ♦ GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39502 ♦ 228-896-0606

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

On Monday, May 17, 2021, 2021, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of 50 year old John Thomas Cearley who resides at 5289 Cronier Avenue in Long Beach, MS on one count of Possession of Burglary Tools and one count of Possession of a Controlled Substance..

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, on Monday May 17, 2021 at approximately 12:53 AM, Harrison County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the 14000 block of Heroes Way in Gulfport, MS on a report of a theft. Upon arrival Deputies found the homeowner holding a suspect at gunpoint. Deputies took the suspect into custody and identified him as John Thomas Cearley. Deputies learned that the homeowners caught Cearley under their car attempting to cut their catalytic converter off of the vehicle. Deputies then noticed that the homeowner's catalytic converter was partially cut off along with burglary tools that Cearley had in his possession at the time he was caught. Deputies located Cearley's car. A subsequent search of Cearley's car led to the discovery of a controlled substance (Heroin) and more burglary tools. Cearley was placed under arrest for Possession of Burglary Tools and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Cearley was transported to the Harrison County Adult Detention Center.

Cearley was booked into the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility and charged with Possession of Burglary Tools and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Cearley is being held in lieu of a \$50,000.00 total bond set by Justice Court Judge Brandon Ladner.

Investigative Officer: Inv. Jason Walker

Arresting Officer(s): Inv. Jason Walker

Approved For Release: _____

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi