

# HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MATT HALEY  
SHERIFF

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**For Immediate Release**

On Monday, February 26, 2024, Harrison County Sheriff Matt Haley announced the arrest of 46-year-old Dave Castillo-Ortiz of Gautier, Mississippi on a felony charge of Trafficking in a Controlled Substance, to wit; Cocaine.

On February 26, 2024, at approximately 3:05 pm, Harrison County Sheriff's Office Criminal Interdiction Patrol units conducted a traffic stop on an Infinity SUV, driven by Dave Castillo-Ortiz, on Interstate 10 East at the 29 Mile-Marker in Gulfport, Mississippi, for a traffic violation. After a preliminary investigation, a probable cause search of the vehicle ensued that led to the discovery of approximately (16) kilograms of cocaine concealed under the rear seats and in the console of the vehicle.

Castillo-Ortiz was subsequently arrested and charged with the aforementioned felony charge. Castillo-Ortiz was booked into the Harrison County Jail in lieu of a \$40,000.00 surety bond. The bond was set by Harrison County Justice Court Judge Albert J. Fountain. The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) assisted in the investigation.

Approved for Release: \_\_\_\_\_

Matt Haley, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi