



Bluffton Police Department

DATE: June 8, 2016

RELEASE NUMBER: 16-48

Narcotic Arrests

What:

Narcotic Arrests

When:

June 8, 2016

Where:

29 Bruin Road



Ricky Blake



Brian Mitchell



This morning, the Bluffton Police Strategic Response Team obtained an arrest warrant for 35-year-old Ricky Blake for his involvement in Friday's homicide, and a search warrant to access entry to 29 Bruin Road. Once inside the residence, investigators then obtained additional narcotic search warrants leading to the arrest of Blake and 28-year-old Brian Mitchell.

Investigators charged Blake with accessory to murder after the fact, accessory to attempted murder after the fact, possession with intent to distribute cocaine, possession with intent to distribute cocaine within a ½ mile of a school, possession with intent to distribute heroin, possession with intent to distribute heroin within a ½ mile of a school, and simple possession of marijuana. Mitchell was charged with possession with intent to distribute cocaine, possession with intent to distribute cocaine within a ½ mile of a school, possession with intent to distribute marijuana, possession with intent to distribute marijuana within a ½ mile of a school, trafficking methamphetamine, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine within a ½ mile of a school, and possession of two controlled substances.

The amount of drugs found at 29 Bruin Road, and in possession of both suspects during the search warrant includes:

- 63.1 grams of marijuana
- 14 grams of methamphetamine
- 11.8 grams of cocaine
- 1.5 grams of heroin
- \$495 in cash

At 11:40 Friday night, Bluffton police responded to a shooting at Goethe and Shults Roads. When police arrived on scene, they found two gunshot victims. One was deceased; one was airlifted to the hospital. Bluffton investigators identified 29-year-old Thomas Bush as the gunman. He was arrested and charged with murder and attempted murder.

This investigation is on-going, and the department encourages anyone with information to please call Detective David Murphy at 843-706-4513 or the department's Tip Hotline at 843-706-4560.

Joy Nelson, Community Relations Manager

jnelson@townofbluffton.com

843-540-8308