



# LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Walt McNeil, Sheriff

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[www.leoncountysos.com](http://www.leoncountysos.com)

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**Media Contact:** Deputy Shade McMillian

**Date:** February 4, 2021

## **Auto Crimes Task Force Arrests Two in Vehicle Burglary Spree**

On January 31, 2021, around 10:25 P.M., Leon County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a residential area on Bass Ridge Trail in northeast Leon County about vehicle burglaries that were in progress. Upon arrival, deputies determined a homeowner was alerted to his vehicle being burgled in his driveway. Video of the incident showed two white male suspects on the property; one acted as a "look-out" while the other entered the vehicle. As a result, responding deputies located and detained 19-year-old Hunter Aultman who matched the description of one of the males in the video. Members of the LCSO/TPD Auto Crimes Task Force responded and assumed the investigation.

Further investigation revealed Aultman, along with a juvenile, 17-year-old Harper Cotton, committed numerous other vehicle burglaries that evening in the northeast area of Leon County. Deputies learned Cotton was possibly in possession of two handguns from previous burglaries. Contact was made with Cotton, and his parent, at which time two Glock handguns were recovered from Cotton's bedroom at his residence. One of the handguns was previously reported stolen to LCSO. Detectives also learned other vehicle burglaries committed by Aultman and Cotton resulted in a large number of stolen firearms. Some of these firearms were then sold over social media applications. Investigation continues into the suspects' involvement in other burglaries with possible additional charges.

Leon County Sheriff Walt McNeil reminds citizens to remain vigilant and aware of suspicious activity and persons in their neighborhoods adding, "A neighborhood that watches out for each other is one of the best ways to keep our property and communities safe." The Leon County Sheriff's Office "9 P.M. Routine" initiative reminds citizens to always lock their doors and remove firearms from their vehicles.

Aultman was arrested and transported to the Leon County Detention Facility. Cotton was arrested and transported to the Juvenile Assessment Center.

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**ARRESTED:** Hunter Aultman  
**DOB:** 8/20/2001  
**CHARGES:** Armed Burglary  
Violation of Probation (2 counts)



**ARRESTED:** Harper Cotton  
**DOB:** 12/1/2003  
**CHARGES:** Armed Burglary  
Grand Theft of Firearm  
Dealing in Stolen Property  
Possession of Weapon by Minor  
Violation of Probation



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