

# LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



*Larry Campbell, Sheriff*

Leon County Sheriff's Office  
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DATE: 4/19/2011

### Man Arrested for Setting 16 Different Fires

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on April 19, 2011 the Leon County Sheriff's Office, the Tallahassee Fire Department and the Florida Department of Agriculture responded to the area of Bradfordville Road and Thomasville Road in reference to several brush fires. The Tallahassee Fire Department extinguished 16 separate fires in the same general area.

Witnesses told deputies and detectives that they observed a white male subject wearing blue jeans and no shirt in the areas where the fires had been started. At approximately 6:30 p.m. deputies located James M. Stewart, 50, in the Bradfordville area. Stewart fit the description of the man observed leaving the area of the fires. Stewart was questioned by detectives about these incidents and admitted his involvement in setting the fires.

Two of the fires were set near Chiles High School and the others were set in the wooded area behind the Kohl's Department Store, the Publix Shopping Center and Target.

Stewart was arrested and taken to the Leon County Jail.

### ARRESTED

**James M. Stewart**  
**DOB: 12-06-1960**



**Charges: Intentional or Reckless Burning of Land (16 counts)**

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