



# **Release of Public Information**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: 12/29/2008

**Larry Campbell**

**Sheriff**

Leon County Sheriff's Office

2825 Municipal Way

Tallahassee, FL 32304

(850) 922-3300

**Sgt. Tony Drzewiecki**

Public Information Officer

Office-(850) 922-0732

Fax-(850) 410-2960

### **Sheriff Larry Campbell Asks Citizens to Report Dogfighting**

On Saturday, December 27, 2008, at approximately 10:30PM the Leon County Sheriff's Office received a noise complaint which led deputies to a dog fight at an empty lot on Sand Dollar Lane off of Chaires Cross Road.

Deputies arrested three men, while many others fled the scene. The three men arrested were Lonnie Brantum, 23yoa, who is facing charges of dog fighting and possession of less than 20 grams of cannabis. Shawn Antonio Washington, 32yoa, who is facing charges of dog fighting and is being held for the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office on a warrant for Grand Theft. The third man arrested was Melvin Moore, 28, who faces charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, carrying a concealed firearm, dogfighting and possession of cocaine and cannabis with intent to sell. Two pit-bull mixes with bite wounds were turned over to Leon County Animal Control and transported to a local veterinarian where they are receiving treatment.

Leon County Sheriff Larry Campbell said "dogfighting is a cruel, inhuman and barbaric act that causes these dogs' tremendous pain and death. As demonstrated in these arrests violence, guns and drugs are inter-connected with dogfighting. These acts are not indicative of the values of this community and I ask anybody that knows of, or suspects, dogs that are being used in dogfights to contact the Leon County Sheriff's Office.

### **How to Spot Signs of Dogfighting in Our Community**

- An inordinate number of pit bulls being kept in one location, especially multiple dogs who are chained and seem unsocialized.
- Dogs with scars on their faces, front legs and stifle area (hind end and thighs).
- Dogfighting training equipment such as;
  - Treadmills used to build dogs' endurance
  - "Break sticks" used to pry apart the jaws of dogs locked in battle
  - Tires or "springpoles" (usually a large spring with rope attached to either end) hanging from tree limbs
- Unusual foot traffic coming and going from a location at odd hours.



**Leon County Sheriff's Office**

