



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LCSO Arrests Suspect in Multiple Armed Robberies

On Monday, May 15, Leon County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a business in the 7900 block of Blountstown Highway in reference to an armed robbery.

During their investigation, deputies identified 46-year-old Christopher Byrd as the suspect. Witnesses say he brandished a semi-automatic handgun during the incident and described the vehicle used as a gray Chrysler 200.

While proactively working the case on Tuesday, May 16, LCSO's Violent Crimes Unit, in collaboration with Uniformed Patrol, learned of another robbery that took place earlier in the day, at a business in Midway (Gadsden County). In this case, witnesses gave information matching Byrd's physical description and the same vehicle described in the Blountstown Highway case.

LCSO deputies and detectives along, with Gadsden County Sheriff's Office investigators, located Byrd and the vehicle at a residence off Geddie Road, in Leon County. He was found to have numerous items of evidentiary value in his possession that tied him to the robberies. The items seized included a .380 semi-automatic handgun, cash, and clothing worn during the armed robberies.

During an interview with LCSO detectives, Byrd admitted to committing the armed robbery on Blountstown Highway and several other armed robberies in Gadsden County. He was arrested and transported to the Leon County Detention Facility without incident. He is charged with one count of Armed Robbery with a Firearm and one count of Possession of a Firearm by a convicted felon. He is also facing charges in Gadsden County.

This was a multi-jurisdictional event that involved teamwork and information sharing among multiple agencies. The collaborative effort resulted in Byrd's arrest, taking a violent convicted felon off the streets.

This is still an active investigation. If you have any information about this case or other related incidents, contact LCSO's Violent Crimes Unit detectives at (850) 606-3300. Witnesses who want to remain anonymous can contact Big Bend Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-8477. Tipsters may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000 if the tip leads to a felony arrest.

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