

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Walt McNeil, Sheriff

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Angela Green-Sherrod Date: April 11, 2023

LCSO School Resource Deputy Arrests Student with Gun

This morning around 8:10 a.m., the staff at Rickards High School detected the smell of marijuana on a 17-year-old student, who arrived late on campus.

Rickard's Security staff began an immediate investigation, which included an administrative search of the student. During their contact with the student, school employees found a loaded Glock 43 X handgun in the student's backpack. Due to the quick actions of school administrators, the campus was not placed on lockdown.

The Leon County School Resource Deputy assigned to Rickards was immediately contacted and took the juvenile into custody. He was arrested and transported to the Juvenile Assessment Center without incident.

The SRD's preliminary investigation determined the weapon was reported stolen out of Tallahassee. The juvenile is charged with Possession of a Firearm on School Property.

The FortifyFL app is available to anonymously report any suspicious, Leon County School-related activity or call 850-922-KIDS. Also, as part of its Cease Fire initiative, LCSO in collaboration with Big Bend Crime Stoppers will offer a monetary reward leading to the arrest of an individual illegally possessing a firearm. Tipsters can remain anonymous and receive a \$1,000 reward, call 850-574-TIPS. Learn more by visiting the website www.leoncountyso.com.



