



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304

www.leoncountysos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Deputy Shade McMillian

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Burglary Investigation Leads Deputies to Gun and Drug Arrests

On March 28, 2020, LCSO Deputies responded to a burglary in progress in the 2700 block of Silver Lake Road in western Leon County. While responding, information was given that the suspect, 30-year-old Mercedes Dozier, had left the scene driving a blue Dodge truck. Deputies were familiar with Dozier and responded to her known residence as well as the scene of the burglary.

Upon arrival at Dozier's residence, deputies observed Dozier exit the blue Dodge truck. A male subject, 35-year-old Daniel Bales, was seen walking away from the truck and into the residence. During the investigation, deputies learned Dozier had a key to the victim's residence, who was known to her, and went there to retrieve items. Dozier consented to a search of the Dodge truck. Inside the truck, deputies located a backpack in the rear passenger seat that Dozier said belonged to Bales. Through further examination of the backpack, deputies found syringes, a clear plastic bag containing suspected methamphetamine, a spoon, and a tourniquet. A pair of male boxer shorts and a sock were also found inside the backpack. Deputies observed the socks Bales was wearing at the time were identical to the one sock found in the backpack. Inside a rear passenger storage compartment of the truck, deputies found a Ruger handgun, loaded with one live round, near Bales' backpack. A purple pouch was also found in the driver's side door containing a syringe and two small baggies of suspected heroin. The suspected heroin and suspected methamphetamine were field tested with positive results. Further investigation revealed Dozier and Bales were the only occupants of the truck and the handgun belonged to Bales. The handgun was seized on scene.

Dozier admitted the heroin and syringe in the purple pouch belonged to her. Deputies confirmed Bales was on probation and a convicted felon. The burglary was unfounded at the conclusion of the investigation.

Dozier and Bales were arrested and transported to the Leon County Detention Facility.



ARRESTED: Mercedes Dozier
DOB: 7/18/89
CHARGES: Poss. of Controlled Substance
Poss. Of Narcotic Equipment



ARRESTED: Daniel Bales
DOB: 3/22/1985
CHARGES: Poss. of Controlled Substance
Poss. Of Narcotic Equipment
Poss. of Weapon by Convicted Felon
VOP/Burglary of Dwelling
VOP/Grand Theft
VOP/Grand Theft of Firearm
VOP/ Poss. of Weapon/Ammo by Convicted Felon



Deputy Shade McMillian, Public Information Officer
Office (850)606-3342

mcmillians@leoncountyfl.gov

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