



HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

TROY J. PETERSON
SHERIFF

P.O. BOX 1480 ♦ GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39502 ♦ 228-896-0606

*****PRESS RELEASE*****
For Immediate Release

On March 9, 2017, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of Max Mitchell Benefield year old 30 who resides at 17010 E. Adams Rd. Saucier, MS, on a felony charge of two counts of grand larceny.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, Investigators were working two Grand Larceny reports from Ranchland Tractor ATV located at 21277 Hwy 49 Saucier, MS. Ranchland reported that on March 2, 2017 and March 3, 2017 that someone cut the fence stealing a total of four zero turn lawnmowers, 20ft trailer, multiple trailer tires and other implements. Investigators received information that a zero turn lawnmower matching the description of one stolen from Ranchland Tractor and ATV was possibly located in the 16000 block of E. Adams Road. in Saucier, MS. Investigators made contact with Max Benefield, it was discovered that Benefield was responsible for cutting through Ranchlands fencing on two separate occasions and stole a total of four zero turn lawnmowers, a 20 foot trailer and other implements all with an estimated value of approximately \$40,000.00. Investigators recovered the trailer at Benefields residence along with other items from the thefts. A zero turn lawnmower was also recovered from the residence in the 16000 block of E. Adams Road At this time there are additional items pending recovery that are expected to be recovered in the following days.

Max Mitchell Benefield was booked into the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility and charged with two counts of grand larceny. Benefield is being held in lieu of a \$20,000 dollar bond set by Justice Court Judge Albert Fountain.

Investigative Officer: Investigator Piazza, Sgt. Joe Sturm _____

Arresting Officer(s): _____

Approved For Release: _____

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi