



HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TROY J. PETERSON

SHERIFF

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

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release

On Monday, April 23, 2018, a citizen complaint led to an internal investigation by the Harrison County Sheriff's Office. The complaint alleged a Harrison County Sheriff's Deputy used unnecessary force while escorting an inmate from a sentencing hearing at the Harrison County Courthouse back to a transport vehicle.

On Tuesday, April 24, 2018, an internal investigation was opened by the Harrison County Sheriff's Office.

On Wednesday, the Deputy was placed on administrative leave pending an Administrative Board review.

Upon completion of the investigation and review of both videos, it was determined that the inmate was removed from one transport van and placed into another van after being disorderly and causing a disruption with other inmates. A verbal altercation did ensue between the Deputy and inmate while being placed in the other transport vehicle. The Deputy was required to use force to place the inmate in the transport vehicle to return him to the Harrison County Adult Detention Center.

On Thursday, April 26, 2018, an Administrative hearing was held regarding the allegations made against the Harrison County Deputy. As a result of this hearing, the Deputy was terminated for violation of departmental policies and procedures.

Approved For Release: _____


Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi