



PRESS RELEASE

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Harrison County Community Work Center Escapee Apprehended

Jackson, Miss. - State inmate Vandy Jerome Johnston #R6831, who escaped late Tuesday evening from the Harrison County Community Work Center (CWC) in Gulfport, Miss., was apprehended today by the Adams County Sheriff's Department. Johnston, a 23-year old white male, was placed in the Adams County Jail and is being held on a warrant by the Mississippi Department of Corrections. Johnston will be transferred to the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility where he will be processed back into the prison system.

In making his escape, Johnston stole a Gulfport police patrol car parked at the City's maintenance garage located adjacent to the Harrison County Community Work Center. Johnston escaped shortly after an official head-count was conducted at 9:00 p.m. at the CWC Tuesday evening. The Louisiana State Police recovered the stolen blue and white Crown Victoria patrol car abandoned near Kenner, LA. The police vehicle was unharmed and out of gas. The keys were still in the stolen vehicle's ignition. Inmate Johnston, who worked on city vehicles at the garage, had access to vehicle keys being serviced at the garage according to Harrison County corrections officials.

Johnston, who is serving a seven-year sentence for burglary from Adams County, now faces additional charges in Harrison County for escape and vehicle theft.