

Burglars Caught In the Act, Arrested

January 4, 2012

A Gainesville man and woman have been arrested after being caught in the act of burglarizing a home.

On January 4, 2012 at approximately 7:45 AM, Sheriff's Deputies responded to the 1100 block of East Lake Drive, in Gainesville, after an alert neighbor noticed a suspicious vehicle at an unoccupied residence and called 911. Upon arrival, the first responding Deputy observed two subjects flee the residence on foot.

The Deputy was able to immediately apprehend 39 year-old Sandie Michelle Gearin, of Gainesville, and provided other responding Deputies with a physical description of her male accomplice. Deputies set up a containment perimeter and deployed K9 tracking teams in the search for the second subject. After approximately 45 minutes of tracking and searching, 42 year-old Michael Edward Howard, of Gainesville, was located hiding on a boat dock less than a mile away and taken into custody.

The incident remains under investigation by the Hall County Sheriff's Office, Criminal Investigations Division.