



Putnam County Justice Center
421 East Spring Street • Cookeville, TN 38501
Phone: 931.528.8484 • Fax: 931.528.7043

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 04/12/18

Sheriff's Office Searches for Escaped Felon

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN – May 12, 2018- At approximately 12:30 PM, Michael D. Whitaker fled the scene of an automobile accident at 150 First Ave. N. Baxter, TN after attempting to evade Putnam County Sheriff's Office Deputies at a routine traffic stop. Whitaker is a 6 feet tall Caucasian male. He weighs approximately 200 pounds and has black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a blue shirt and jeans.

Whittaker was on parole out of White County and living in Sparta, TN. Baxter Primary, Upperman High School, and local daycares were put on soft lockdown, and extra Sheriff's Office Deputies were deployed to the schools as precautionary measures. However, there is no danger to the schools at this time.

Michael Whitaker is wanted out of White County for FELONY POSSESSION OF SCHEDULE II DRUGS, POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, FALSE POLICE REPORT, and ALT/FALS/FORG AUTO TITLE/PLATES. His bond is \$25,000. Additional charges in Putnam County will be issued as well. Megan Cook, who was in the car with Mr. Whitaker at the time, was detained pending an arrest that was eventually recalled.

The Sheriff's Office is utilizing multiple resources to apprehend Mr. Whitaker, and the incident remains under investigation at this time. If you have any information regarding Michael Whitaker's whereabouts, please contact the Putnam County Sheriff's Office at (931) 528-8484

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Media contact:

Laura Hull, PIO

sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov

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