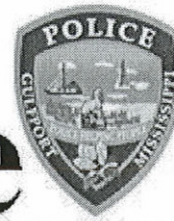


City of Gulfport
News

Release



Police Department PIO

www.gulfport-ms.gov/police

Chief Alan Weatherford today announced that:

Case # : 09-041273

On January 7, 2010, the Gulfport Police Department arrested 46 year old Melissa Rene Benham of Gulfport and charged her with felony driving under the influence (DUI).

On November 12, 2009, officers from the Gulfport Police Department conducted a traffic stop with Benham in the 2500 block of 25th Avenue. Benham was initially charged with misdemeanor DUI, but it was later learned that she had two (02) prior DUI convictions in the past five (05) years.

The charge of misdemeanor DUI was then dropped and upon reviewing the underlying facts and circumstances with Justice Court Judge Melvin Ray a warrant was issued for Benham for felony DUI with a bond of \$10,000.00.

On January 7, 2010, Benham turned herself in on the outstanding warrant and upon completion of booking and processing she was transported to the Harrison County Adult Detention Facility in lieu of bond.

Approved for release by: _____

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be "A. Weatherford", written over a horizontal line.

Date: January 08, 2010

“Building a safer Gulfport together”