



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

## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 11/21/2014

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN – **Subject Captured in Manhunt Last Night**

Incident Location: 319 Franklin, Cookeville, TN and surrounding areas

Date: 11/20/2014

A joint investigation by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and Cookeville Police Department culminated in the arrest last night of Gregory Earl Johnson, 27, a resident of Algood, on charges of aggravated assault, evading arrest, and the original criminal court capias/fail to appear on a previous charge of conspiracy to sell or deliver cocaine. Johnson was booked into Putnam County Jail on \$60,000 bond.

According to Putnam County Sheriff's Office Deputy Caleb Meadows, he and Deputy Aaron Cox of the Sheriff's Office and Cookeville Police Department officers Ethan Ross and Robert King were attempting to serve a criminal court capias on Gregory Earl Johnson at 319 Franklin last night. The subject, who has a lengthy criminal record for numerous narcotics and probation violations and is known for evading and resisting arrest, was sitting in a car with the engine running. Officers approached the vehicle and Deputy Meadows ordered the subject out of the vehicle. When the Deputy opened the car door and moved to assist the subject out of the vehicle, Johnson gunned the engine and took off down the street dragging Deputy Meadows approximately 70 feet before he could break free from the subject and the vehicle. A seasoned veteran of the Sheriff's Office, Meadows immediately alerted dispatch that the subject had tried to run him down and was traveling at a high rate of speed south on Franklin with no lights on the vehicle.

At this point, Sheriff Eddie Farris as well as high ranking officials from both police departments responded to the scene. Following a lengthy manhunt involving K9 units from both departments, the subject was captured and taken into custody.

According to Sheriff Farris. "Last night's incident is an excellent example of how training and cooperation between our officers and K9 units helps to keep our community safe. Through the dedication and relentless efforts of our deputies and joint operations with fellow law enforcement agencies, we are successfully cracking down on those individuals who think they can beat the system and get away with crime."

The investigation into this incident continues. Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to call the Putnam County Sheriff's Office at (931) 528-8484.

**Media contact:**

Beth Nelson, APR

[sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov](mailto:sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov)

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