

INVESTIGATION

Cops: Ex-cop planned mass shooting

Man arrested in Florida was enroute to kill Black people at New Orleans Jazz Fest, inquiry states

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Authorities say a former North Carolina law

enforcement officer planned to kill Black people in a mass shooting at a major New Orleans festival but

was arrested at a Florida hotel with a handgun and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

Authorities in several states did not name the event, but the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, commonly known as Jazz Fest, runs from Thursday through May 3.

Christopher Gillum of Chapel Hill, North

Carolina, was wanted for "terroristic threats," the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office in Florida posted online Thursday. Federal authorities told the sheriff's office that Gillum, who is white, was in the Florida Panhandle "heading to do a mass shooting at a large festival in Louisiana." The FBI in New Orleans said it's working on the investigation with law enforcement across the three states.

The Okaloosa sheriff's office said Gillum was arrested without incident Wednesday at a hotel in Destin, and posted a photo of him being led away in handcuffs.

Gillum was arrested as a fugitive from justice and will be extradited to Louisiana to face charges there, the sheriff's office said.

Gillum's family reported him missing on Tuesday and he has a history of self-harm, according to Lt. Clint Lyons of the Alamance County Sheriff's

Office in North Carolina. Gillum's family told law enforcement he had a gun and had "expressed recent threats to harm 'Black people,'" according to a bulletin from police in Burlington, North Carolina.

Lyons said Gillum left the state before his agency could prepare the paperwork to involuntarily commit him to psychiatric treatment. Lyons said there were no criminal grounds to detain Gillum despite his comments about Black people "because there was no victim," however the agency decided it needed to spread the word about him to other departments.

Gillum was located and stopped by law enforcement in Okaloosa

County on Wednesday, according to Lyons.

However, he "did not present any grounds for involuntary commitment or criminal charges" and was allowed to continue on his way, the bulletin stated. Gillum told officers he was "enroute to New Orleans," the report added.

Okaloosa deputies were initially asked to make a "welfare check" on him Wednesday morning but they didn't know he'd been making violent threats, sheriff spokesperson Michele Nicholson said. Later that day, after the sheriff's office learned Gillum was being investigated, deputies surveilled him until an arrest warrant arrived from Louisiana, she added.



Gillum

2026-2027 Season tickets available April 22

Swingtime Canteen - Musical
Apr 16-May 3, 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Playwrights - Linda Thorsen Bond, William Repicci & Charles Busch
Artistic Directors - Mary Crawford & Marie Brown
Music Director - Marti Koch
Scenic Designer - Ron Bates

The Velocity of Autumn
By Eric Coble
May 14-24, 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Playwright - Eric Coble
Artistic Director - Jenni Elliott
Scenic Designer - Bill Olson

Kids Onstage
Camp Dates: June 8-12, 15-19 2026

Show dates: June 19th, 7 pm & June 20th, 2 pm

941-255-1022 www.charlotteplayers.org

LANGDON PLAYHOUSE 1182 Market Cir PC 33953

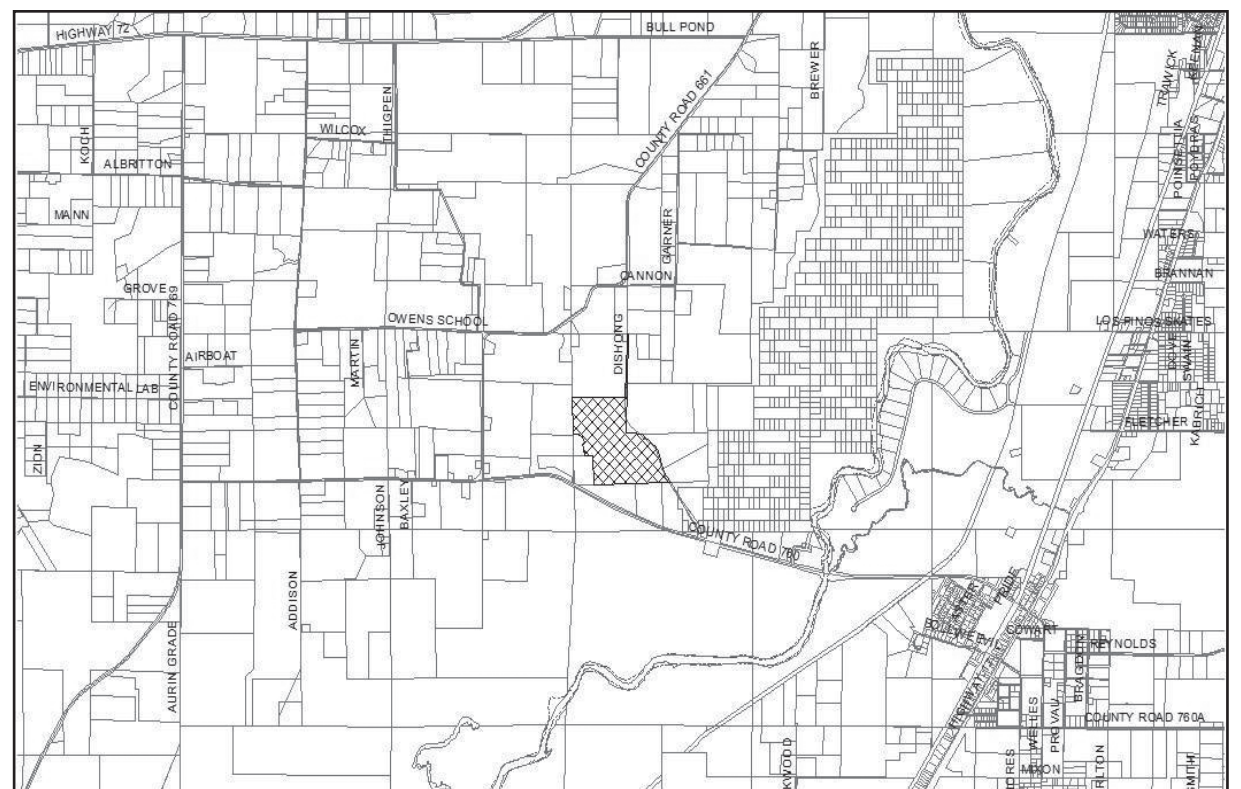
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The **DeSoto County Board of Adjustment ("BOA")** of DeSoto County, Florida will consider the adoption of a resolution regarding the below-described variance application. The resolution will be considered at regularly scheduled Public Hearing Meeting of the Board of Adjustment on **Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 5:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter, as they may be heard on that date. All public hearings will be held in the County Commission Meeting Room 103, Administration Building, 201 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida. Copies of the applications and staff reports are available at the Development Department Room 204, Administration Building, 201 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida five days prior to the meeting dates and are available on the County's website at www.desotobocc.com under Department News and News & announcements. Members of the public may appear and be heard on the matters to be considered. If you want to appeal any decision of the BOA, you may need to arrange for a verbatim transcript to be prepared.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 5:30 PM

1. Resolution, Southwest Land Developers, Inc. (DeSoto Sand & Fill) (VAR-0003-2024)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, (GRANTING/DENYING) MULTIPLE VARIANCE REQUESTS BY SOUTHWEST LAND DEVELOPERS, INC. (VAR-0004-2025) FOR AN EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING TYPE IV EXCAVATION TO ALLOW (1) EXCAVATION OF MORE THAN 500,000 CY IN MORE THAN A 60-MONTH PERIOD; (2)(i) A 276 FOOT SET BACK FROM THE PROPERTY LINE WHERE 300 FEET IS REQUIRED, (2)(ii) TO ALLOW AN 823 FOOT SET BACK FROM PUBLIC LAND INSTITUTION FUTURE LAND USE AND A-5 ZONING WHERE 1000 FEET IS REQUIRED, (2) (iii) A 450 LINEAL FOOT SET BACK FROM A RESIDENCE WHERE 1000 FEET IS REQUIRED, (2)(iv) ADJACENCY TO PROPOSED TYPE IV EXCAVATION TO THE NORTH, WHERE ONE MILE FROM ANY OTHER EXCAVATION SITE IS REQUIRED, (3) EXCAVATION LIMIT OF 69% OF TOTAL EXCAVATION AREA WHERE A MAXIMUM OF 25% IS ALLOWED (4) ALLOWING FOR A COST-SHARING AGREEMENT IN LIEU OF BONDING OR PAYMENT FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, AND (5) ENTRANCE ACCESS IMPROVEMENT REQUIREMENTS, ON A +/- 95.92-ACRE PARCEL, LOCATED AT 3511 SW DISHONG AVE THE PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER BEING 16-38-24-0000-0025-0000, WHICH EXCAVATION SPECIAL EXCEPTION REMAINS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; INCORPORATING THE WHEREAS CLAUSES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Publish: April 24, 2026

Did you know newspapers can be recycled?

Sorry if that's old news :)

CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF ARCADIA CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026, AT 6:00 PM IN THE MARGARET WAY BUILDING IN THE ARCADIA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 23 NORTH POLK AVENUE, ARCADIA, FLORIDA TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

ORDINANCE 1117

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARCADIA, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE 4, SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 4.10.00 (ZONING DISTRICTS AND ALLOWED LAND USES), PROVIDING APPLICABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY, EXISTING, PERTAINING TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT OF SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES, INCLUDING MODULAR HOMES AND MOBILE HOMES THAT HAVE BEEN DAMAGED OR DESTROYED; AND AMENDING TABLE 4.10.01 (LAND USES AND ZONING DISTRICTS), ADDING USE PERMISSIONS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY, EXISTING; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ANY INTERESTED PERSONS WHO FEEL THEY ARE AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING AND BE HEARD. ANY PERSON(S) WISHING TO VIEW RELEVANT INFORMATION IN ADVANCE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY VIEW SAID DOCUMENTS AT THE CITY OF ARCADIA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE AT 23 NORTH POLK AVENUE, ARCADIA, FLORIDA BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8 AM AND 5 PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

ANYONE WISHING TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS MADE AT THIS HEARING WILL NEED A RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE THEY MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS MADE.

ANY PERSON WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT 863-494-4114.

Publish Date: April 24, 2026

adno=3988191-1

adno=3988251-1