

# Fayette County Sheriff's Office

## *Sheriff Barry Babb*

PRESS RELEASE- AUGUST 2, 2023

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## **FSCO Continues to Investigate County Wide Mail Theft**

*Two Men Arrested in Connection to Postal Box Theft*

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga. – On July 30, a joint effort between Fayette County Sheriff's Office Road Patrol and Fayette County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigators resulted in the arrest of Christopher Antonio Smith (37) and John Rodney Turner (30).

In June 2023, Fayette County Sheriff's Office Investigators were able to determine that mail was being stolen from the blue postal box located at the Fayetteville Post Office. Further investigation found the focus of the theft was to obtain financial instruments and alter them for personal deposits or trades.

Throughout June and July, investigators used multiple sources of intelligence to confirm how thefts were occurring from the postal box, which led to the July 30 arrest. Smith and Turner were found with 211 pieces of stolen mail, which included 151 personal checks with the value of \$49,382.38. Both individuals are charged with multiple counts of Possession of Stolen Mail, Identity Fraud, Exploitation of Elder Persons, and Theft by Taking.