



PRESS RELEASE

Special Education Teacher Arrested for Cruelty to Children (1st Degree) & Simple Battery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MAY 15, 2025

TIFTON, Ga. – Tifton Police Department took Dixie Hardy, 55, of Tifton, into custody on Wednesday morning following investigation of a complaint received by the Tift County School Board.

The Tifton Police Department received a call from the Tift County School Board on May 9, 2025 about a complaint alleging a teacher had assaulted students at Eighth Street Middle School.

Tifton PD opened an investigation which led to the arrest of Hardy for the following:

- 1 Count Cruelty to Children in the 1st Degree
- 1 Count Simple Battery

Hardy voluntarily turned herself in to the Tifton Police Department Wednesday morning. Hardy is currently held at Tift County Sheriff's Office awaiting arraignment.

The Tifton Police Department is dedicated to reducing crime, preventing accidents and appropriately investigating and apprehending offenders within the City of Tifton. To anonymously report crimes to the Tifton Police Department, contact the tip411 alert system by texting keyword TIFTONPD (space) to 847411, or by downloading the Tifton PD app.

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