



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Media Release

From: Sergeant Donna Black
Public Information Officer, 352-797-3609

Re: Alcohol Buys by Underage Informants-Arrests Made

Date: April 12, 2010

Case#: 2010-13990

On Friday, April 9, 2010, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office conducted controlled alcohol buys at various locations throughout Hernando County. The Vice-Narcotics Unit in conjunction with the Florida State Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco conducted the investigations in response to tips received that store clerks in Hernando County were selling alcohol to people under the legal age to purchase such beverages.

During the course of the investigation confidential informants between the ages of 18 and 19 were sent into randomly selected convenience stores in an attempt to buy alcohol. The appearance of the informant should have clearly indicated that he/she was less than the age to purchase the items.

Out of the 46 stores checked the underage informants were able to successfully purchase alcohol at six (6) businesses. In each of the six (6) sales the clerks who sold the alcohol were issued a misdemeanor citation (NTA) for selling an alcoholic beverage to a person under the legal age, a violation of Florida Statute 562.11.

The following is a list of the stores and offenders:

- Mobil (6200 Commercial Way, Spring Hill), Krista Walters (w/f, 01/14/88)
- A & J Discount Beverage (5574 Commercial Way, Spring Hill), Cynthia Cardinal (w/f, 01/07/56)
- Jiffy Store (4132 Deltona Boulevard, Spring Hill), Miton Patel (w/m, 08/07/86)
- Sunoco (6026 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill), Laura Carifi (w/f, 07/30/64),
- Chevron Food Mart (717 South Broad Street, Brooksville), Felicia Higginbotham (w/f, 08/28/85)
- Marathon Gas Station (600 East Jefferson Street, Brooksville), Fahad Ahmad (w/m, 05/11/67)

In addition to the stores, 5 bars were checked. Only 1 bar sold the underage informants alcohol. The following is the information:

- Jersey's (4598 Commercial Way, Spring Hill), James Miller (w/m, 01/09/75)

This type of investigation will be on going as we continue to receive tips from the community about sales of alcohol to minors or underage individual.