



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

### Media Release

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**From: Sergeant Donna Black  
Public Information Officer, 352-754-6830**

**Re: Contract Jail Nurse Arrested**

**Date: March 23, 2011**

**Case#: 2011-09669**

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**Arrested: CATHERINE MARIE LAPE, 5/27/69, of Port Richey**

**Charge: Introduction of or Possession of Contraband into a Detention Facility-  
F.S.S. 951.22, Bond \$4,000.00**

On March 23, 2011, at 12:30 pm. contract jail nurse, Catherine Marie Lape was arrested for two (2) counts of introduction of or possession of contraband into the Hernando County Detention Center located at 16425 Spring Hill Drive Spring Hill, Fl .

On 03/22/2011 Hernando County Sheriff Detective Scarpati was advised that a theft of five (5) Citalopram tab 20 mg (Celexa) was taken from the pharmacy/medication room at the Hernando County Detention Center. Det Scarpati was told by Nurse Michele Marvel, LPN, that on Sunday 03/20/2011 she had left a blister pack that contained twelve (12) Citalpram tab 20 mg (Celexa) in the pharmacy/medication room to be returned to the Harbour Island Pharmacy for a refund. Nurse Marvel said she left the room and when she returned a short time later she found five (5) tablets missing.

On 03/23/11, Detective Scarpati interviewed Nurse Catherine Lape who admitted to removing the pills from the packing material with the intention to provide the pills to an inmate/inmate. She would not identify the inmate/inmates. During a search of Lape's purse, a Motrin bottle containing two (2) Hydrocodone Bitartrate 500 mg/5 were found which were also in violation of introduction of or possession of contraband in a county detention center. Lape was arrested and booked into the Hernando County Jail, bond of \$4,000.00.

Lape is not an employee of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office. Lape, a licensed LPN is a temp contract employee hired through Suwannee Medical Personnel, and has been temporarily working at the Hernando County Jail since January 17, 2011.