



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Media Release

From: Corporal Wendy McGinnis
Public Information Officer, 352-754-6830

Re: \$150,000 of Cheese and Turkeys Successfully Recovered

Date: July 29, 2011

Case#: 2011-24532 and 2011-24603

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office worked in conjunction with the Pasco County Sheriff's Office and successfully recovered two semis with trailers stolen out of Hernando County on 7/23/2011 and 07/25/2011. Both thefts were committed in a similar fashion.

The first theft occurred at the Circle K, located at 35075 Cortez Blvd. in Brooksville, on 07/24/2011. The semi and trailer, owned by Heyl Trucking, was parked in the rear of the business. The semi had a refrigerated trailer and was transporting approximately 37,700 pounds of frozen turkeys with an approximate value of \$75,000, case number 2011-24532.

The second theft occurred at the Sunrise Plaza, located at 31100 Cortez Blvd. in Brooksville, just off of I-75. This theft occurred between 07/24/2011 and 07/25/2011. This semi, owned by WEL Companies, was parked toward the front of the parking lot and was backed in to an alcove section of the parking lot. The semi was also attached to a refrigerated trailer and had a large load of nacho cheese with an approximate value of \$75,000, case number 2011-24603.

Both semis and trailers were recovered by the Pasco County Sheriff's Office at the Flying J truck stop located at 29933 State Road 52, just off of I-75 in San Antonio, FL. In both cases the vehicles were recovered with the cargo still in the trailers. It was determined the suspect(s) were able to gain access into both of the semis by breaking out a small glass window located at the bottom of the passenger door and then dislodge the ignition from the steering column. Both trucks contained electronics, such as a television, lap top computer, and an XM satellite radio which were not recovered. There is currently no suspect information at this time.

Anyone who may have suspect information in either of these cases is asked to contact Detective Vargas 352-797-3873 or Detective Sikalos 352-797-3844 of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Cargo Theft Task Force.