



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Deputies Arrest Man in Possession of Possible Explosive Device

Date: June 15, 2018

On 06-14-18, Hernando County deputies were dispatched to the residence of Jason Taylor at the request of Probation and Parole, as his Probation Officer believed Taylor was possibly in possession of firearms and/or explosive devices.

Upon arrival at Taylor's residence, he was not home. Deputies along with Taylor's Probation Officer checked the residence and were unable to locate any contraband.

On 06-15-18 just before 11 a.m., a Hernando County deputy spotted Taylor walking in the area of the Family Dollar, located at 7419 Spring Hill Drive, in Spring Hill.

During the consensual encounter with Taylor, the deputy requested to look in the backpack he was carrying.

Inside Taylor's backpack, the deputy located a suspicious device, an item that appeared to be a grenade of some sort. Deputies located a knife on Taylor's person.

The Citrus County Bomb Squad was requested to respond to assist with the suspicious device.

Currently, indications are that the device is a replica. Until further testing is completed by bomb technicians, that is unconfirmed.

Jason Taylor W/M DOB/01-18-1978 was placed under arrest by deputies for Carrying a Concealed Weapon (the knife) and Violation of Probation. He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center without incident.

The Office of Sheriff:

The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.