



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
Public Information Officer, 352-797-3609

Re: Encounter at Gas Station Leads to Three Arrests

Date: July 30, 2012

The victim met Rebecca Rodriguez at a gas station and the two exchanged telephone numbers. Several text messages were sent back and forth, and the two agreed to meet at Rebecca's house for sexual intercourse. While the two were in the bedroom, Rebecca's cousins, Brigdare "BJ" Lopez, Joshua Lopez, and Jeremiah Rodriguez rushed in. They began to punch and kick the victim repeatedly. The group then tied the victim's hands behind his back, threw him out the window and hid him in a shed. They also stole money from his wallet and hit him in the back with a baseball bat.

The group then blindfolded the victim with a t-shirt and forced him into his own vehicle, a 1996 Honda Accord. They drove him to a location on Goldsmith Road in Brooksville, where they forced him out of the car and made him walk away, still blindfolded. The group then stole the victim's car and drove to a house in Spring Hill where they abandoned the car.

Detectives met with the victim, who was able to provide directions to the residence where the original crime occurred. They were quickly able to identify suspects in the case and contact the individuals involved. The suspects admitted to their involvement in the crimes; however, they each downplayed their individual roles, blaming the others as the "leader" of the crimes.

Investigation revealed that the crime was actually preplanned by Rebecca Rodriguez. She lured the victim to her home and instructed her cousins to hide, then wait outside of her bedroom once the victim was inside. They were to listen for her to say, "Oh that feels so good." Once they heard that, they were to rush in, beat up the victim and steal his money.

The individuals have been charged as follows:

Rebecca Marie Rodriguez W/F DOB/03-30-1986

Robbery Unarmed – Grand Theft Auto – Kidnapping

Bond - \$42,000.

Brigdare “BJ” Lopez W/M DOB/08-18-1995

Robbery Unarmed – Grand Theft Auto – Kidnapping – Battery

Joshua Ray Rodriguez W/M DOB/01-21-1989

Robbery Unarmed – Grand Theft Auto – Kidnapping – Battery

Bond - \$42,500.

Probable cause exists for the arrest of **Jeremiah Rodriguez W/M DOB/08-08-1992** – who is still at large.