



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: Another Case of Impersonating a Law Enforcement Officer

Date: February 11, 2013

The victims were driving through the parking lot of Taco Bell in Spring Hill when they decided to turn their vehicle around. A silver Chevrolet Colorado, pick-up truck, pulled in front of them forcing them to come to a stop.

Once stopped, the driver and occupant exited the truck and approached the victim's vehicle and identified themselves as law enforcement officers, in plain clothes. One of the individuals produced a badge and requested identification from the occupants of the vehicle.

One of the occupants inside the vehicle became suspicious of the suspect's tone of voice and overall demeanor and asked for their badge numbers. He also advised that he was going to call 9-1-1.

The suspects advised the victims that "you caught a break tonight" and then they left the area.

The victims were able to provide a very good vehicle description and a tag number to deputies. A BOLO was issued.

Later in the day another call was received at the Spring Haven Apartment complex regarding two males posing as law enforcement officers. Again, deputies responded. They arrived to find Ryan Romano and Sean Sherron in the parking lot by a silver Chevrolet pick-up truck.

Romano advised deputies that he was a "retired" Deputy Sheriff from Kenosha Sheriff's Department in Wisconsin and provided police identification for that agency. Deputies

contacted authorities at Kenosha Sheriff's Department in Wisconsin to learn that Romano had been terminated one week earlier.

Deputies questioned Romano and Sherron regarding the incident at Taco Bell and learned that Romano had initiated the "police contact" in the parking lot earlier that day.

Ryan Romano W/M DOB/09-15-1981 was arrested for Impersonating a Law Enforcement Officer. He is being held without BOND.

Sean Sherron was not charged with a crime, as investigation revealed that he did not identify himself as a Law Enforcement Officer during the incident.

This case is not related to the case of Impersonating a Law Enforcement Officer last week where the suspect initiated a traffic stop on the east side of Hernando County.