



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Michael Terry  
Community Relations Specialist, 352-797-3608

**Re:** Pasco Man Charged in Walgreens Attempted Armed Robbery

**Date:** August 30, 2016

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On 8-26-16 at 10 p.m., deputies were dispatched to an attempted armed robbery at the Walgreens Pharmacy located at 13053 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville.

According to surveillance video, an unidentified man entered the store and headed to the home goods aisle where he removed a knife from its packaging.

He then headed toward the pharmacy where he jumped over the pharmacy counter while brandishing a knife and yelling at the pharmacist "Give me all your bottles."

The pharmacist yelled back at the man to get out of the pharmacy, which he did.

The man fled the scene in a BMW.

Shortly before the attempted armed robbery, dispatch received a call of a reckless driver in the vicinity of Wawa gas station across the street from Walgreens. Surveillance video shows what appears to be the same man at the gas station 10 minutes prior to the attempted armed robbery. His description matched up with the video from Walgreens.

Deputies were able to run the license plate and eventually identify the suspect as **Justin Curtis Lee, W/M DOB 08/03/1971.**

The Forensics Unit was able to recover a palm print where Lee had placed his hand to jump over the counter.

Once positive identification was made, deputies responded to Lee's New Port Richey home on Monday where he was taken into custody without incident.

Lee was transported to the Pasco County Jail where he is being held on charges of **Attempted Armed Robbery and Retail Theft.**

His bond was set at \$51,000.

**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.