



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

**Re:** Vice and Narcotics Unit Busts Drug House Located Just Feet Away From  
Elementary School Playground

**Date:** September 29, 2016

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On 09-28-2016 at approximately 09:47 a.m., detectives from the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a drug search warrant at 5509 Roble Avenue in Spring Hill. This residence is located directly across the street from Spring Hill Elementary School. Sheriff's detectives became concerned with the activity that was occurring at the residence, particularly because of the close proximity to the school. Over the past year, the Sheriff's Office received 54 calls for service, for various reasons, to this residence.

On 08-30-2016, members of the Selective Enforcement Unit responded to this residence to locate a wanted person. The detectives located Thomas Blackburn, who had warrants for his arrest. As detectives were attempting to put him in custody, Blackburn resisted arrest with violence. He was subsequently charged with Resisting Arrest, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Possession of other Controlled Substances.

On 09-03-2016, an individual at the residence reported an attempted armed robbery when two unknown suspects pulled a gun and demanded his money.

During the course of the investigation, undercover detectives were able to purchase methamphetamine from Blackburn, on two occasions. This led to detectives being able to obtain the search warrant.

Pursuant to serving the search warrant, detectives located methamphetamine, oxycodone, scales, baggies, smoking pipes, and a shotgun which was in a bedroom that was occupied by Danny Moore and Rebecca Lashbrook. Numerous items of drug paraphernalia were located throughout the residence.

Moore and Lashbrook were both arrested. Detectives also charged Blackburn with two counts of Sale and Possession of Methamphetamine within 1000 Feet of a School.

Moore was charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Oxycodone, and Paraphernalia. Lashbrook was charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Diazepam and Paraphernalia.

Prior to the search warrant, Vice and Narcotics supervision made contact with the school administration to make sure that the students and teachers were safe and not near the operation.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis said, “Our Vice and Narcotics Unit works hard on a daily basis to keep our community safe, particularly when crimes like this occur near schools and/or playgrounds.”

Individuals arrested were as follows:

- **Danny Moore W/M DOB/08-02-1990**
- **Rebecca Lashbrook W/F DOB/05-12-1990**
- **Thomas Blackburn W/M DOB/06-09-1990.**

Scene photos are available on the HCSO Facebook page.

#### **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.**