

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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<u>Media Release</u>

From:	Denise M. Moloney Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609
Re:	Flooring Installer Charged with Organized Fraud and Dealing in Stolen Property
Date:	November 14, 2016

In July 2016, Carol Nola hired Jack Frey to install laminate flooring in her home.

Nola told detectives that she and Frey responded to Lowe's on Commercial Way in Spring Hill where she purchased 73 cases of laminate flooring for a total of \$4,015. Frey was to install said flooring.

During the next several weeks while Frey was in the process of installing the flooring, Nola began to notice cases of the (uninstalled) laminate missing from her garage where it was stored. Nola confronted Frey about the missing cases of laminate at which time Frey stated he would "replace" the missing flooring.

Nola also noticed that the receipt that she received during the original purchase from Lowe's was missing. Nola responded to Lowe's in an effort to obtain another receipt at which time she was informed by the clerk that "someone" had returned portions of the laminate flooring, utilizing the original receipt/invoice number on previous occasions.

Nola then contacted the Hernando County Sheriff's Office.

Detective Mike O'Brien began investigating the case.

Through investigation, O'Brien determined that five separate returns had been made to two Lowes stores, one on Commercial Way in Spring Hill, the other on Broad Street in Brooksville. Thirty cases of laminate flooring had been returned between 08-22-2016 and 10-01-2016, totaling \$1,757.27 in fraudulent returns.

After viewing the surveillance footage from the returns, Detective O'Brien was able to confirm the individual who returned the laminate flooring was Jack Frey (due to previous in person contacts).

On 11-03-16 an arrest warrant was issued for Jack Frey for the following charges:

- Organized Fraud
- Dealing in Stolen Property
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Additional arrest warrants were already on file for Frey in Hernando County and Citrus County for Failure to Appear.

On 11-11-16, Detective Mike Woodward located and arrested Jack Frey W/M DOB/10-06-1978.

Frey was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center. His bond was set at \$55,000.

Investigation revealed that Frey is currently out on bond for the offense of Grand Theft (Hernando County) and has previous felony convictions for Organized Fraud, False Impersonation of a Law Enforcement Officer, Escape, Criminal Use of Personal Identification, and Grand Theft.

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.