



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
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**Re:** Commercial Burglary - Target Commercial Way

**Date:** January 4, 2017

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On 01-04-17 at 2:32 a.m., the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center received a call regarding a Commercial Burglary at the Target store located at 4401 Commercial Way in Spring Hill.

Deputies were dispatched to the scene at 2:33 a.m.

Information received from witnesses indicated that four males were inside the store taking items and placing them into a suspect vehicle that was parked directly in front of the store.

The first unit arrived on scene at 2:36 a.m. The suspect vehicle and all suspects had already fled the scene.

Dispatchers quickly provided all units with the information on the suspect vehicle, a BMW sport utility vehicle, so the units could BOLO (be on the lookout) for said vehicle.

The suspect vehicle was spotted by Hernando County Sheriff's deputies and by Brooksville police officers. The driver refused to stop when traffic stops were attempted. The vehicle fled eastbound, out of Hernando County.

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) spotted the vehicle speeding along Cortez Boulevard (Highway 50) in eastern Hernando County. The Trooper attempted a traffic stop; the driver failed to stop and a pursuit began.

As per a statement released by Sergeant Steve Gaskins with the FHP, the suspect vehicle was then pursued north on I-75, to the Florida Turnpike, then south to SR-408 in Orlando before exiting into an apartment complex. Once in the apartment complex (Windsor Cove Apartments – located off Mercy Drive in Orlando) several occupants exited the vehicle and fled on foot.

Despite efforts by the FHP and the Orlando Police Department, no suspects were apprehended.

No law enforcement officers or known citizens were injured during this incident.

Video surveillance from Target will be made available as soon as possible.

#### **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.**