



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: K-9 Justice Apprehends Man Who Fled from Traffic Stop

Date: January 11, 2017

On 01-11-17 just after 1 a.m., Sgt. William Hillman observed a male driving a red motorized scooter eastbound on Spring Hill Drive near Kenlake Avenue. The driver committed a traffic violation in the area of Airmont Drive, so Sgt. Hillman attempted to conduct a traffic stop near that location. The driver fled northbound on Airmont Drive.

The driver quickly lost control and crashed the scooter near 1442 Greenview Avenue. The driver, later identified as Ford K. Perkins, immediately fled on foot.

Deputies set up a perimeter, and a K-9 team was called to the area.

Corporal Stephen Miller and K-9 Justice responded and began a track where Perkins was last seen. K-9 Justice tracked in an easterly direction toward 6255 Airmont Drive where Perkins was located hiding in the bushes. Perkins refused to comply with numerous lawful commands to surrender and remained concealed in the bushes.

Corporal Miller then deployed K-9 Justice to apprehend Perkins. K-9 Justice made contact with Perkins, biting him on the right forearm. While K-9 Justice was attempting to apprehend Perkins, Perkins began punching K-9 Justice (with a closed fist), striking him multiple times in the right ribs.

Corporal Miller and Sgt. Hillman then took Perkins into custody.

Hernando County Fire/Rescue responded to the scene to treat Perkins for the dog bite. Perkins was later transported to a local hospital.

Ford K. Perkins W/M DOB/09-27-1992 was charged as follows:

- Fleeing and Eluding

- Resist Officer w/o Violence
- Battery on a Police Dog
- Criminal Mischief
- DWLSR
- Bond - \$9,500.

Perkins is also on Felony Probation, which will be violated with this arrest.

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.