

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney

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Re: HCSO Continues Investigation into Bomb Threat - UPDATE

Date: March 2, 2017

Update

Hernando County Sheriff's detectives have identified and arrested the suspect responsible for planting a hoax bomb at the Oak Hill Pharmacy on 02-28-17.

Aaron James Sanders W/M DOB/04-30-1984 of Spring Hill was placed under arrest earlier today. He was charged as follows:

- Planting a Hoax Bomb
- Aggravated Assault w/a Weapon (the hoax bomb) 2 counts
- Possession of a Weapon in a Pharmacy (the hoax bomb)
- Bond None.

The investigation with the FBI and the State Fire Marshal continues. Additional charges are possible.

The hoax bomb was sent to the State Fire Marshall lab for testing. Depending on the components in the device, Sanders' charges could be upgraded from a hoax bomb to a bomb.

Original Information

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office is continuing its investigation into a bomb threat that occurred at approximately 11:15 a.m. today at the Oak Hill Pharmacy, located at 10101 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville.

The suspect fled the scene in an older model green pickup truck, possibly a Ford.

The device left behind by the suspect was rendered safe by the Citrus County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad.

The device will be transported to the state lab for further analysis.

Authorities plan to reopen the area to the public within the hour.

Other agencies involved in the investigation include the Florida Department of Financial Services, Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830.

If you wish to remain anonymous or to be eligible for a reward, call the Hernando County Crime Stoppers toll free number 1-866-990-8477. You may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.

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.