



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: UPDATE - Search Warrant - 806 Twigg Street

Date: April 27, 2017

Update

As a result of the diligent work of Hernando County Sheriff's undercover detectives and the subsequent search warrant, **Bruce Warren B/M DOB/11-14-1962** was sentenced to 12 years in the Florida Department of Corrections.

Original Information

On 02-03-16, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant at 806 Twigg Street in Brooksville, the residence of Bruce Warren. The search warrant was the result of Vice and Narcotics detectives conducting undercover narcotic transactions at the residence.

At approximately 5:30 a.m., the SWAT Team made entry into the residence and encountered Warren, who was placed into custody without incident. Patrol units secured the scene while a K-9 team assisted in locating narcotics within the residence.

Pursuant to the search, detectives located a trafficking amount of crack cocaine that had been cooked inside the residence. Detectives also found a felony amount of marijuana that had been packaged for distribution. Methamphetamines and other items of drug paraphernalia, consistent with the sale of illegal narcotics, were also located. Along with finding the illegal drugs, detectives found two firearms and numerous rounds of ammunition. The firearms were a Taurus Judge .410 ga/.45 caliber handgun and a Kel-Tech 5.56mm handgun, which resembled a shortened assault rifle, that had a 45 round extended magazine. **Warren has 13 felony convictions and 11 misdemeanor convictions.**

Along with the aforementioned charges, Warren was also charged with three counts of sale and possession of crack cocaine within 1,000 feet of a church.

Detectives met with several citizens in the area whom all expressed a level of gratitude for the efforts of the Sheriff's Office. Contact was made with a pastor of a church on Twigg Street who was very pleased that the problem had been addressed. He explained that the crowds that would gather around Warren's property would negatively impact the activities of his church.

Hernando County Code Enforcement responded and noted several code violations, to include numerous inoperable vehicles, piles of garbage, and standing water, to which they were going to issue citations for said violations.

Bruce Warren B/M DOB/11-14-1962 was arrested on scene and charged as follows:

- Possession of a Structure for Manufacturing Controlled Substance
- Trafficking in Crack Cocaine
- Possession of Methamphetamine
- Possession of Marijuana over 20 Grams with Intent to Distribute
- Felon in Possession of a Firearm (2 counts)
- Felon in Possession of Ammunition
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Bond - \$71,000.

It should be noted that Warren was conducting his illegal drug activity in the immediate vicinity of the **Mid Florida Community Services Inc., Head Start** (a comprehensive child development program designed to help children develop school readiness and social competency), **Brooksville Engineering, Science, and Technology Academy (BEST)**, a **bus stop** at MLK/Twigg that services several schools, **three churches** on Twigg Street, and the **Hernando County Sheriff's Office South Brooksville Community Center**.

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.