



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
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**Re:** Deputies Catch Man Breaking Into Funeral Home

**Date:** February 2, 2018

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On 02-02-18 at approximately 1:15 a.m., Hernando County deputies were dispatched to the Demarco Family Funeral Home, located at 5399 Commercial Way in Spring Hill, after dispatchers received a call of a Burglary in Progress.

A witness, who was working in a business next to the funeral home, observed an unknown male going in and out of the funeral home, with a flashlight and a crowbar. The witness also noticed that the individual had a mask on and was wearing all dark clothing. Assuming this was a burglary in progress, the witness immediately notified the Hernando County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies quickly arrived in the area of the funeral home and set up a perimeter. As patrol deputies awaited the arrival of a K-9 unit, the suspect exited the building, carrying a large object, later determined to be a tub of formaldehyde.

Deputies immediately took the suspect into custody. The suspect was identified as Aaron Meininger.

The investigation was then turned over to District Detective, Chris Owens.

Owen's investigation revealed that Meininger's vehicle (located at the scene) contained items from inside the funeral home, including makeup, nail polish, electric clippers, bottles containing soap and formaldehyde powder, and miscellaneous instruments used in funeral preparation.

When Owens questioned Meininger about the burglary, Meininger advised that he was "bored" and that he "messed up" and wasn't even sure what kind of business he was breaking into. Meininger admitted that the items located inside his vehicle were taken from

the funeral home. He told Owens that he did not know what he was going to do with the items he had taken, and he would “probably just throw them away.”

**Aaron Meininger W/M DOB/10-29-1988** was placed under arrest and charged as follows:

- Commercial Burglary (subject to enhanced penalty due to wearing mask)
- Grand Theft
- Possession of Burglary Tools
- Bond – No Bond (already out on bond on another charge).

**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.**