



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Detectives Arrest Two for Commercial Burglary and Dealing in Stolen Property

Date: February 28, 2018

On 01-31-18, Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to a Commercial Burglary at a cell tower site, located at 14020 Commercial Way. During the burglary, a large generator was stolen.

Deputies on scene followed a path caused by the generator being dragged through the terrain. Down the path (inside the wildlife preserve), deputies located the generator and the Blue Ford Expedition that towed it away from the cell tower site. The vehicle and the generator had been abandoned. It was later determined that the vehicle was operable, but was out of gas.

Detectives contacted the owner of the Ford Expedition, Kristen Hines, to inquire about the vehicle. Hines advised that John Wentworth took her vehicle after being involved in an argument with her.

Detectives attempted to make contact with John Wentworth at his residence on Peaceful Avenue and met with negative results. Wentworth was then spotted walking in the roadway near his residence. When detectives attempted to make contact, Wentworth fled and could not be located. A warrant was issued for his arrest.

On 02-05-18, an anonymous tip was received that Wentworth was again in the area of his residence on foot. Numerous deputies and detectives responded in an attempt to locate and arrest Wentworth. When Wentworth spotted deputies, he fled. After a brief foot pursuit, Wentworth was apprehended by deputies. While being placed into custody, Wentworth fought violently, striking a detective. After being detained, a small bag of methamphetamine, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia was located under Wentworth's body. Wentworth was then transported to the HCSO for interview.

While on scene attempting to locate Wentworth, detectives located Jonathan Donofrio-Crockett who was a suspect in a Petit Theft and believed to be an associate of Wentworth. While speaking with Donofrio-Crockett, he admitted to the Petit Theft and advised detectives where the stolen items were. Donofrio-Crockett also told detectives he had information on other crimes in the area. Donofrio-Crockett was also transported to the HCSO for interview.

In addition to confessing to the Petit Theft, Donofrio-Crockett told detectives that he received a kayak and a chainsaw from Wentworth, which he assumed were stolen, yet he agreed to sell them for Wentworth. Detectives later recovered both items and returned them to their owner. Both items were reported stolen during a Residential Burglary.

In the early morning hours of 02-01-18, Donofrio-Crockett advised that he and his girlfriend, Felecia Wentworth, received a call from her father, John Wentworth, stating he was in trouble, running from the cops, and his truck had run out of gas. Donofrio-Crockett and Felecia Wentworth responded to the area of Commercial Way and Centralia Road to pick up Wentworth; however, they were unable to locate him. Donofrio-Crockett told detectives that several hours later Wentworth arrived at Donofrio-Crockett's camper. He said Wentworth was "sweaty and out of breath" advising that he had stolen a generator but ran out of gas and had to leave both the generator and the truck behind.

John Wentworth told detectives that he left in the vehicle on 01-31-18 because he knew he had a warrant. Wentworth then went to obtain methamphetamine. Wentworth provided a different story regarding his whereabouts later that evening/early morning, advising he was sleeping and upon awakening, the keys and the vehicle were gone. Wentworth advised he then walked home from an area just off Cortez Boulevard near Weeping Willow Street. Detectives noted that Wentworth's account of events placed a 16 hour timeframe on the walk to his residence, which was a distance of only six miles.

When confronted with the many inconsistencies in his story, Wentworth advised that he was "fried from the meth" and didn't want to discuss the matter any further. Wentworth was then transported to the Hernando County Detention Center.

Detectives arrested both suspects, charging them as follows:

- **John Edward Wentworth W/M DOB/08-05-1978**
 - o Commercial Burglary
 - o Resist Arrest w/o Violence
 - o Capias – FTA
 - o Resisting Arrest w/Violence
 - o Possession of Methamphetamine
 - o Possession of Marijuana
 - o Possession of Paraphernalia

- **Jonathan Joseph Donofrio-Crockett W/M DOB/11-07-1991**
 - o Structure Burglary
 - o Petit Theft
 - o Dealing in Stolen Vehicle (2 counts).

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.