



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

Media Release

From: Michael Terry
Community Relations Specialist, 352-238-4801

Re: UPDATE - Suspect in Three Shootings Killed in Gunfire Exchange with
Spring Hill Store Employee

Date: July 20, 2018

UPDATE

The first shooting victim located at 3404 Olson Road in Spring Hill has been identified as **James Rufus Elswick, W/M DOB/09-06-1960**. Elswick died as a result of his injuries.

The second shooting victim located at 2993 Commercial Way in Spring Hill has been identified as **Richard Webb Jr., W/M DOB/10-27-1982**. Webb, who remains hospitalized, is expected to make a full recovery.

Original Information

The Hernando County Sheriff Office has released the name of the man responsible for two shootings Thursday afternoon in Spring Hill.

The incidents involving **Theodore Antonia Parker, W/M DOB/07-22-1958**, started around 2:36 p.m. at a residence on Chestnut Drive in Hudson.

During that encounter, Parker entered a residence a fired several shots at a female victim.

While it didn't appear the woman was hit by any bullets, investigators say he physically battered the victim causing serious, but non-life-threatening injuries.

Parker then drove to a residence on Olson Road in Spring Hill.

At around 2:43 p.m., Parker proceeded to shoot a male victim at that location. That victim died as a result of his injuries.

Parker then drove to the Smokes Smoke and Vapor Shop located at 2993 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, where investigators believed he attempted to rob the business armed with a firearm.

During the encounter Parker and a smoke shop employee exchanged gunfire.

Both Parker and the employee struck each other with gunfire.

Both individuals were transported by ambulance from the scene. Parker was pronounced dead by the medical staff at the hospital. The smoke shop employee remains in critical condition.

The investigation remains active. There are no additional details at this time.

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.