

— SHERIFF — Al Nienhuis

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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<u>Media Release</u>

From: Michael Terry Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: HCSO Aviation Unit Helps Locate Teen Vehicle Burglary Suspect -- 2024-00115332

Date: March 20, 2024

On 03-19-2024 at approximately 10 a.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to the parking lot of the Chili's, located at 12912 Cortez Boulevard in Brooksville, in reference to a report of a vehicle burglary.

Upon arrival, the victim advised deputies the suspect, later identified as **Noah Best DOB/04-03-2008**, had entered the victim's Kia Soul through a broken window where he then rummaged through the victim's vehicle. Best then exited the vehicle and proceeded to jump on the vehicle's roof, which caused considerable damage.

Best was observed on surveillance video fleeing the area on foot headed east in the direction of the Wawa gas station, located at 12984 Cortez Boulevard.

K-9 Justice and his handler Cpl. Stephen Miller responded to the scene to help locate Best. The Aviation Unit also responded to assist in the search.

Within minutes the Aviation Unit was able to locate Best hiding in a wooded area located south of Cortez Boulevard on the west side of Mariner Boulevard.

The Aviation Unit was able to direct deputies on the ground to Best's location.

Best was immediately taken into custody without further incident.

Further investigation revealed Best had also committed a vehicle burglary in the parking lot of Vitality Senior Living, located at 7030 Evergreen Woods Trail in Spring Hill.

Best was charged with two counts of Burglary of a Conveyance. He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where, following processing, he was released to a grandparent as directed by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Hernando County Crime Stoppers / Anonymous Tips

If you have information on this case, please contact Hernando County Crime Stoppers. You will remain anonymous!

Hernando County Crime Stoppers can be reached by phone at 1-866-990-TIPS (8477) or **TIPS from a cell phone.

You may also submit your tip via the internet at <u>http://www.hernandocountycrimestoppers.com</u>.

You will remain anonymous and also be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000 cash!