



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Sheriff Warns of Door-to-Door Salesmen

Date: May 17, 2018

Sheriff Al Nienhuis is warning citizens about a door-to-door salesman scam.

Detectives in District Two are currently investigating cases of door-to-door salesmen knocking on doors of elderly citizens and then forcing their way in when the elderly citizen answers the door.

Once inside, the “salesman” tries to sell various food products, oftentimes meat or fish. When the citizen refuses the purchase the product(s), the salesman proceeds to stock the citizen’s freezer with the product(s) and then demand money.

The elderly population is often easily intimidated and agrees to pay for the product.

Detectives advise that citizens should not open the door to any salesman or to any person who you do not know personally. If you receive a knock at your door by someone from this group, please call our office at 352-754-6830.

If you can see what make/model/color vehicle the individuals are in and the direction of travel they are going, that is always helpful. We ask that you NOT go outside to obtain this information. If you can get it from inside your home, please provide it.

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.