



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
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**Re:** Detectives Investigate Parental Kidnapping - Children Recovered Safely

**Date:** June 8, 2018

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On 06-08-18, just before 10 a.m., Muharib Fahim Kursheed responded to a residence in Spring Hill where his four children live with their mother. Kursheed sat in his vehicle outside of the residence and waited for the children to come out. A short time later, when the children exited the residence, Kursheed took all four of them, in violation of a court order.

The mother of the children got into her vehicle and followed Kursheed's vehicle but lost sight of him in the area of Waterfall Drive and Spring Hill Drive. The mother of the children then called 9-1-1 to report the incident.

Deputies met with the mother of the children and reviewed the court order, which stated the mother was to have sole custody of all four children. It was noted on the court order that the father was not allowed contact with the children or their mother.

Major Case detectives were called in to investigate the case.

Detectives worked tirelessly throughout the day attempting to locate Kursheed, his vehicle, and/or the children. The mother of the children reported that Kursheed may attempt to leave the state and/or the country with the children, therefore several detectives were assigned to follow-up on and investigate various leads.

In addition to investigating leads within Hernando County, detectives worked closely with law enforcement officers from other jurisdictions, including the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, the Clearwater Police Department, ICE, and the FBI in an effort to locate Kursheed.

At approximately 6:30 p.m., law enforcement officers from the Clearwater Police Department located Kursheed's vehicle at the residence of one of Kursheed's associates.

Within a short time, Kursheed was placed under arrest by officers in Clearwater. The four children were located at the residence and were recovered safely.

The mother of the children responded to Clearwater to pick up the children. They were all in good health.

**Muharib Fahim Kursheed B/M DOB/12-27-1979** was placed under arrest and charged with the following Hernando County warrants:

- Interference with Child Custody (4 counts)
- Violation of Injunction (5 counts)
- No bond.

The case is still active. Additional information will be provided when available.

**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.**