



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Night Watch Commander's Meal Break Turns Into Marijuana Arrest

Date: October 1, 2018

On 09-29-18, Night Watch Commander, Lieutenant William Power, stopped for a quick bite to eat at the Kentucky Fried Chicken located at 1145 South Broad Street in Brooksville.

Immediately upon entering the restaurant, Lt. Power detected a strong odor of fresh marijuana. Lt. Power quickly discovered that the smell was actually blowing into the restaurant, through the open drive-thru window.

The Lieutenant walked out the door and approached the vehicle sitting in the drive-thru, a gray Nissan Versa.

The Nissan was occupied by a white female driver and a black male passenger. Lt. Power made contact with the passenger, advising him that he was able to smell marijuana and he believed it was coming from their vehicle.

The passenger advised the Lieutenant that the smell must be coming from the car behind them in the drive-thru. The Lieutenant verified this was not the case by walking back to check the next vehicle in line. As Lt. Power moved away from the Nissan and toward the next vehicle, the smell began to dissipate.

As Lt. Power approached the Nissan again, the smell of marijuana became very strong again, even over the smell of the cigarettes that both occupants were now smoking and the four bags of food they had just purchased from Kentucky Fried Chicken.

When backup units arrived, both the vehicle and the occupants were searched.

During a search of the vehicle, deputies located a large plastic bag, containing several smaller bags of marijuana that were under the passenger seat.

The passenger, identified as Isaiah Shaw, told deputies the marijuana was his and was for his own personal use.

Shaw was arrested for Felony Possession of Marijuana (over 20 grams). His bond was set at \$5,000.

The total weight of the marijuana was 110 grams.

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.