



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: County-Wide Fuel Pump Skimmer Sweep

Date: November 16, 2018

On 11-15-18, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Economic Crimes Unit, with assistance from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, conducted a county-wide Fuel Pump Skimmer Sweep. During this operation, all 63 of Hernando County's retail fueling stations were checked for the presence of fuel pump skimmers. At the conclusion of the operation, two skimming devices were located at the Citgo station at 9020 Cobb Rd, Brooksville. During the inspection, the station owner was extremely cooperative and was educated on how to better protect his fueling station from these fraudulent interlopers. The store owner offered to implement increased security measures to protect his customers. The investigation of the found skimming devices is on-going.

Although only one fueling station was found with skimming devices within Hernando County, most fueling stations continue to be vulnerable to these surreptitiously attached devices. As a result, industry wide, fueling stations are enhancing the security of fuel pumps to better protect consumers.

Knowing that the holidays are a time of heavy travel, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office wished to offer a non-traditional security measure to keep our citizens safe, personally and financially.

More Skimmer Sweeps will be conducted in the future.

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.