



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Drug Dealer Takes Plea Deal to Spend 15 Years in Prison

Date: December 28, 2018

Hernando County Vice and Narcotics detectives launched an investigation into Walter Gabrielsen (AKA Disney) after having received at least five separate anonymous tips in regards to short term traffic occurring at 11718 Linden Drive in Spring Hill. The complaints were received by the HCSO between October of 2015 and November of 2016.

Some tips specifically named a white male, referred to as “Disney,” as the suspect.

Investigation revealed the name “Disney” as a street name, documented in various law enforcement databases, for **Walter Peter Gabrielsen W/M DOB/06-18-1972**. Gabrielsen was also known by members of the Hernando County Sheriff’s Office Vice and Narcotics Unit to be involved with selling narcotics.

Between November and December of 2016, detectives facilitated two controlled drug buys from Gabrielsen. Both times, methamphetamine was purchased from Gabrielsen.

Detectives obtained a search warrant for the residence.

On 12-14-2016, the search warrant was executed at the residence on Linden Drive.

Gabrielsen was arrested during the execution of the search warrant. He was charged for the two prior purchases of methamphetamine and various charges stemming from the search warrant. During an interview with detectives, Gabrielsen admitted to selling illegal narcotics.

Recently, Gabrielsen took a plea deal and was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

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.