



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Traffic Violation Leads to the Arrest of Two on Numerous Drug Charges

Date: March 25, 2019

On 03-23-19 just after 11 p.m., Deputies Nicholas Feola and David Vargas were conducting proactive patrols in the area of Waterfall Drive in Spring Hill. At that time, they observed a black SUV fail to stop at the red light at the intersection at Waterfall Drive and Spring Hill Drive.

A traffic stop was attempted on the black SUV near the intersection of Waterfall Drive and Spring Hill Drive; however, the driver did not pull over until he reached the parking lot of the First United Methodist Church on Spring Hill Drive. The deputies noted there were numerous (safe) places to pull over before the church parking lot. The deputies also noted that the occupants of the SUV (driver and passenger) were both moving around inside the vehicle quite a bit, before the driver pulled over.

Upon making contact with the occupants of the vehicle, deputies detected a faint odor of marijuana. The driver of the SUV, identified as Scott Galanick, had an active Hernando County warrant for his arrest. Galanick was searched, incident to arrest, and placed into the back of a patrol car, which was also searched prior to Galanick being placed inside.

The passenger in the SUV was identified as Felix Colarte. Colarte was found to be in possession of hashish oil. Colarte was also searched, incident to arrest, and placed in the same patrol car with Galanick.

Both arrestees were then transported to the Hernando County Detention Center.

Upon arrival at the Hernando County Detention Center, deputies located a small bag of methamphetamine on the seat of the patrol car, in between Galanick and Colarte.

Once inside the detention facility, Detention Deputies conducted a strip search on both arrestees.

During the strip search of Galanick, Detention Deputies located a clear plastic bag that contained a small green plastic baggie that contained 8.55 grams of methamphetamine, and two small clear plastic baggies that contained 5.33 and 5.29 grams of heroin in each. In another baggie (blue), deputies located three tablets, later confirmed to be Diazepam and seven tablets confirmed to be Alprazolam.

All items were removed from Galanick's rectum.

Scott John Galanick W/M DOB/07-08-1982 was booked into the Hernando County Detention Center on numerous charges. His bond was set at \$42,000.

During the strip search of Colarte, Detention Deputies located a clear plastic baggie that contained several smaller blue plastic baggies. The smaller baggies contained 9.56 grams of heroin, 12.85 grams of heroin, and 5.87 grams of methamphetamine.

The larger baggie, containing all of the smaller baggies, was located protruding from Colarte's rectum at the time of the search.

Felix Lazaro Colarte W/M DOB/12-15-1971 was booked into the Hernando County Detention Center on numerous charges. His bond was set at \$40,000.

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.