

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney

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Re: Underage Alcohol Sales and Compliance Checks – May-2019

Date: May 20, 2019

On 05-16-19, undercover detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office conducted Compliance Checks and Alcohol Buys at various locations throughout Hernando County. A total of 21 locations were visited throughout the evening.

At the conclusion of the operation, 12 clerks **did not permit** the sale of alcoholic beverages to the underage customer, successfully following the law. Clerks at nine businesses **did allow** the underage customer to purchase an alcoholic beverage, a violation of the Florida Beverage Law, F.S.S. 562.11.

The offenders are mandated to complete Responsible Vendor Training (RVT), an online course which is administered by the Hernando County Community Anti-Drug Coalition, within 30 days of the violation. The course reinforces the importance of responsible alcohol and tobacco sales and service, reviews Florida beverage laws and demonstrates practices on how to prevent alcohol sales to underage persons.

Stores in VIOLATION (allowed the sale of alcohol to underage person) were as follows:

- Marathon 600 E. Jefferson Street, Brooksville, FL
- Chevron 10455 N. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Citgo 19275 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- Citgo 709 S. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Mobil 5244 Mariner Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- A & J Discount Beverage 5574 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL
- Mobil 6200 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL
- Beverage 50 16370 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **7-Eleven** 7170 Barclay Avenue, Brooksville, FL.

Stores in COMPLIANCE (did not allow the sale of alcohol to underage person) were as follows:

- Circle K 999 N. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Brooksville Food Store 955 Howell Avenue, Brooksville, FL
- Mobil 717 S. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Sunoco 765 S. Broad Street, Spring Hill, FL
- Super Discount Beverage and Smoke Shop 814 S. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Wawa 20075 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- Marathon 7410 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- Racetrac 16129 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- A & H Discount Beverage 7232 Brookridge Central Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- Mobil 4275 Mariner Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- Winn Dixie 4213 Mariner Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- **7-Eleven** 15130 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL.

More operations of this nature are planned for 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.