



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

From: Michael Terry
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Re: Brooksville Domestic Dispute Leads to Two Arrests

Date: May 23, 2019

On 05-19-19, Ashley Waiter loaned her rental car to Patricia O'Conner so she could visit her ex-boyfriend at a residence located at 12391 Sunshine Grove Road in Brooksville.

O'Conner drove to the residence where she met with **Frank Gene Harris III W/M/ DOB/11-15-1985**, her former boyfriend.

During the visit, the former couple got into argument over money O'Conner said Harris owed her.

After O'Conner threatened to cut holes in the tires on Harris' vehicle, she got into the vehicle she arrived in and closed the door.

While O'Conner was sitting in the vehicle, witnesses say Harris got into his Ford Explorer and proceeded to use his vehicle to ram the vehicle O'Conner was sitting in. The Nissan Altima O'Conner was sitting in was pushed about 35 feet by Harris' vehicle.

O'Conner was not injured during the incident.

Initially, Harris told deputies he accidentally struck O'Conner's vehicle with a tractor. He then told deputies he had lied and had hit her car with his Explorer.

Harris told deputies O'Conner was the aggressor, and she was upset due to him having a new girlfriend.

He said when O'Conner threatened to damage his vehicle, he felt the need to protect his property by ramming and pushing her vehicle off the property.

Following questioning, Harris was arrested on a charge of **Aggravated Battery with a Deadly Weapon**. He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where he was initially held without bond.

With Harris in custody, O'Conner attempted to remove the damaged vehicle from the property owned by Francis Mumma, a friend of Harris.

Mumma refused to allow the vehicle to be removed from the property.

On 5-20-19, Waiter reported the incident to the rental car company officials who dispatched a tow truck driver to retrieve the vehicle.

Mumma denied the tow truck driver access to the vehicle.

Deputies were once again called to the scene where they explained to Mumma he would be charged with Grand Theft Auto if he did not allow the vehicle to be removed from his property.

Mumma told deputies he did not care if he was charged and told them to leave.

On 05-21-19, a judge issued a warrant for Mumma's arrest.

Deputies responded back to Mumma's residence to arrest him.

Upon seeing law enforcement, Mumma attempted to elude capture. Several family members called Mumma to encourage him to surrender. Mumma was arrested at his residence on a charge of **Grand Theft Auto**. His bond was set at \$5,000.

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.