



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

Re: Man Charged with Second Degree Murder After Shooting

Date: October 27, 2019

On 10-26-19 just before 10:30 p.m., operators in the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center received numerous calls regarding a Shooting at 26393 Siedel Street in Brooksville (Rolling Acres subdivision). Callers stated a man had been shot and the person who shot him had fled in a vehicle.

Deputies and Hernando County Fire Rescue were immediately dispatched to the scene.

Upon arrival, deputies observed a vehicle in the roadway near 26393 Siedel Street. The vehicle was running and in "drive." The male victim was in the driver's seat, with his foot on the brake pedal. Deputies observed the victim to have several gunshot wounds. The victim was obviously deceased.

Preliminary investigation reveals the two men had both been at a party at the Siedel Street address. They had been arguing during the party but made up and "shook hands." They left together and both got into the victim's vehicle. After the vehicle traveled only a very short distance, a resident who was outside heard gunshots then saw the suspect running from the victim's vehicle. The resident asked the suspect, "Did you kill ___?" The suspect said "Yes" then ran to his vehicle and fled the area.

Deputies and the HCSO Aviation Unit searched the immediate area and several other locations for the suspect/suspect vehicle.

The suspect, identified as **John Baumstark DOB/04-18-1979**, was taken into custody approximately 90 minutes after the shooting, when he arrived at his residence on Ester Drive in Brooksville.

Deputies could see a firearm, in plain sight, in Baumstark's vehicle. Baumstark was wearing an empty holster when he exited his vehicle.

Baumstark was cooperative with detectives.

Baumstark was charged with Second Degree Murder. His bond was set at \$50,000.

The investigation continues.

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, ran unopposed in 2016, and remains accountable to them.