



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

### Media Release

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

**Re:** Detectives Make Arrests in Masaryktown Vehicle Burglaries

**Date:** March 4, 2020

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On 02-24-20, Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to three different streets in Masaryktown after receiving reports of Vehicle Burglaries and/or Criminal Mischief to vehicles.

Detectives determined the same suspect(s) most likely committed all of the crimes as they all occurred within the same time frame. Crimes ranged from slashed tires and smashed windows to vehicle burglaries.

Detectives developed a lead on a possible suspect when a resident with a Ring camera reported that the camera picked up two individuals attempting to enter a vehicle in the area. One of the individuals in the video had a shirt wrapped around his head. The video was turned over to detectives.

On 02-28-20, a citizen in the Masaryktown community was reviewing her video footage from the timeframe the crimes occurred and observed two individuals walking in the area. The citizen recognized one of the individuals as someone from the neighborhood and provided detectives with the name of Preston Williams. When detectives viewed the video, they observed the two individuals, one of which had a shirt wrapped around his head.

Investigation revealed Williams was a senior at Nature Coast High School.

On 03-03-20, detectives responded to the school to conduct an interview with Williams. Post Miranda, Williams initially denied any involvement in any criminal activity in Masaryktown. Williams later recanted his story, stating that Justin Bos was responsible for damaging the vehicles. Williams later admitted that he was with Bos the night the crimes were committed, Bos was attempting to gain entry into UNLOCKED vehicles. If Bos encountered a vehicle that was locked, Bos damaged it in some way, due to being unable to gain entry.

Williams went on to tell detectives that Bos was the one wearing the shirt wrapped around his head. Additionally, Williams stated that Bos had recently shaved his own head because he was aware that video had surfaced showing him committing the crimes.

Williams admitted to handling the stolen property that was taken from the victims' vehicles but told detectives that Bos took all of the stolen property home with him.

**Preston Williams, Age/17**, was placed under arrest and charged as follows:

- Burglary of a Conveyance (3 counts).

Per the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Williams was to be released to his parent at the completion of the booking process at the Hernando County Detention Center.

**Justin Bos DOB/11-03-2000** was placed under arrest on 03-04-20. He was charged as follows:

- Burglary of a Conveyance (3 counts)
- Bond - \$15,000.

The case remains under investigation.

#### **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.