



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

### MEDIA RELEASE

---

**From:** Michael Terry  
Deputy PIO, 352-238-4801

**Re:** Couple Charged in Connection with Laundromat Burglaries

**Date:** April 8, 2020

---

On 03-26-2020, the owner of a Brooksville laundromat reported eight washers and dryers were damaged overnight by someone attempting to steal coins from the machines.

On 03-27-2020, the owner of a separate Brooksville laundromat reported several washers and dryers were also damaged overnight by someone attempting to steal coins from the machines.

Detectives were able to develop possible suspects through surveillance video obtained from the burglaries.

Those suspects were identified as **Dallas Funchess W/M DOB/05-08-1980** and **Charlene Harley W/F DOB/12-02-1982**.

On 04-03-20, detectives received a tip the suspects were recently at the Walmart located 1485 Commercial Way in Spring Hill.

On 04-06-20, detectives located the suspects in the parking lot of the Walmart on Commercial Way. Funchess and Harley were found sleeping in the bed of their truck.

Funchess admitted to breaking into both laundromats to steal coins. He told deputies he was stealing the money to pay for food. During a search of the vehicle deputies located a screwdriver and a hammer used by Funchess to break into the coin boxes. Harley served as a look out for the burglaries.

In addition to these incidents, the suspects are believed to be involved in other investigations involving thefts from another laundromat, a local motel, and Walmart.

Funchess was charged with **Felony Criminal Mischief, Felony Petit Theft, Theft of a Coin Operative Device, Grand Theft and Burglary of a Structure**. His bond was set at \$23,000.

Harley was charged with **Grand Theft, Petit Theft, Burglary, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Principle in the First Degree**. Her bond was set at \$12,000.

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