



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: Sheriff's Vice and Narcotics Detectives Continue Their Quest to Rid Hernando County of Illegal Narcotics

Date: May 8, 2020

On 05-08-20 in the early morning hours, detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit, with assistance from the HCSO SWAT team, executed a Search Warrant at 9226 Dan Lynn Street in Brooksville.

Detectives received information regarding the distribution of illegal narcotics occurring at this residence.

Investigation revealed, the resident, Tommy Owens, was in fact selling illegal narcotics from the residence.

During the execution of the Search Warrant, detectives located the following:

- 8.6 grams of methamphetamine
- Multiple items of drug paraphernalia
- Smith and Wesson .380 caliber pistol
- Bobray .45 caliber pistol
- 105 rounds of miscellaneous ammunition
- \$3,967. In U.S. currency.

Thomas Oliver Owens DOB/10-02-1969 was arrested on scene and charged as follows:

- Possession of Methamphetamine w/Intent to Sell
- Possession of Paraphernalia.

In addition to the charges that resulted from the Search Warrant, Owens was also charged with the following (warrants):

- Trafficking in Methamphetamine
- Sale of a Controlled Substance
- Possession of a Controlled Substance w/Intent to Sell (2 counts)
- Possession of a Structure for Sale of Narcotics (2 counts)
- Possession of Paraphernalia (2 counts).

The total bond for all charges is \$114,000.

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.