

## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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## **Media Release**

From: Michael Terry

Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: HCSO Arrests Woman in Connection with Avalon Construction Site Burglary

Date: July 30, 2020

On 07-06-2020, Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a construction burglary on Old Windsor Way in the Avalon community located in Spring Hill.

A construction supervisor advised deputies that an unknown suspect(s) entered a residence under construction and removed 21 kitchen and bath cabinets that were still in boxes.

The items were valued at more than \$5,000.

On 07-29-2020, the same construction supervisor was notified of two suspicious vehicles driving around Avalon and the construction site.

The construction supervisor was able to provide a tag number for one of the vehicles.

The registered owner of that vehicle was **Ana Rojas DOB/06-17-1982**, who lives at 14029 Amero Lane.

Detectives responded to the Amero Lane residence to conduct further investigation.

Upon arrival, deputies knocked on the front door, and a juvenile opened the door.

Detectives immediately saw numerous cabinet boxes on the living room floor similar to the ones taken from Old Windsor Way location.

The detectives could also see an order number displayed on one of the boxes.

Detectives contacted the construction supervisor who was able to confirm the order number on the box found at Amero Lane matched the order number of the boxes stolen from the home on Old Windsor Way. Detectives then obtained a search warrant.

The search warrant was executed without incident. All of the stolen cabinetry was located.

Additionally, detectives located a number of other newly packaged items that are possibly linked to other recent construction burglaries.

Rojas arrived at the home where she was arrested as the search warrant was being executed.

Rojas provided a full confession to detectives.

Rojas was charged with **Burglary to an Unoccupied Dwelling**, which is a second-degree felony.

She was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where her bond was set at \$5,000. The judge lowered her bond to \$1,000 at First Appearance.

Detectives are investigating additional suspects possibly involved in the construction burglary.

The investigation remains ongoing to determine if there is a connection to other burglaries in the area.

## 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.