

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Michael Terry

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Re: Search Warrant – Illegal Gambling – Fish 4 Fun

Date: September 11, 2020

On 09-10-2020, an investigation into illegal gambling at Fish 4 Fun, located at 5165 Commercial Way in Spring Hill, culminated when members of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant at the business.

Investigation revealed that Fish 4 Fun had numerous computerized games inside that appeared similar to slot machines in a legal casino. These games are considered "games of chance," as the computer decides when the player "wins." The business made cash payouts to any patron who "won." The operation at Fish 4 Fun did not follow Florida state gambling statutes.

The business is "cash only," and has ATM inside, which did not have records to account for all of the cash recovered during the investigation.

During the execution of the search warrant, detectives seized \$7,600 in cash, a computer, various gambling machines, and numerous documents relating to the illegal operation. One arrest has been made at this time, **Cheryl Dolan DOB/12-14-1959**, with additional arrests forthcoming.

Dolan was charged as follows:

- Playing Games of Chance by Lottery
- Gambling/Keeping Gambling House
- Gambling Possession/Manufacture/Sale of a Slot Machine
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Oxycodone)

Her bond was set at \$68,000. She has since bonded out of jail.

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 was reelected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.