



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Michael Terry  
Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

**Re:** Pasco County Couple Charges in Connection with Harold's Auto Center  
Burglary

**Date:** October 20, 2020

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On 09-20-2020, Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to Harold's Auto Center located at 5299 Commercial Way in Spring Hill to investigate a report of a **Commercial Burglary**.

The suspects committed numerous felony offenses during the incident.

Initially the suspects forced entry into a tow truck and removed a crowbar. The suspects then caused \$500 in damage by forcing entry into the building.

The suspects stole approximately \$40,000 worth of tools from the business. The suspects also took several sets of keys to vehicles located on the property.

Investigation revealed the suspects made numerous trips transporting the stolen tools from the business to Pasco County.

The suspects also stole three vehicles from the property, which have since all been recovered.

Through evidence recovered at the scene, detectives were able to identify **Aleisha Edwards DOB/09-02-1988** and **Justin McDaniel DOB/08-19-1987** as possible suspects.

On 10-14-2020, detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office and the Pasco Sheriff's Office responded to the suspects' residence on Ruth Drive in New Port Richey.

The suspects pulled up to the residence on a motorcycle while deputies were on scene and quickly fled the area. The suspects abandoned the motorcycle a short distance later and fled on foot.

The Pasco Sheriff's Office K-9 and Aviation units responded to assist in the search.

Both suspects were located by detectives a short time later hiding in the area.

During questioning, Edwards admitted to taking part in the commercial burglary at Harold's Auto Center. She indicated McDaniel also participated.

However, McDaniel denied any involvement in the incident.

Both Edwards and McDaniel were arrested on charges of **Commercial Burglary, Conveyance Burglary, Grand Theft of more than \$20,000, three counts of Grand Theft – Statutory Property and Evidence Tampering.**

Additionally, Edwards and McDaniel were arrested on various other charges pertaining to cases in Pasco County and their attempt to flee law enforcement.

Both remain incarcerated at the Pasco County 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 re-elected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.**