



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Underage Alcohol Sales and Compliance Checks – May-2019

Date: October 30, 2020

On 10-29-20, undercover detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office conducted Compliance Checks and Alcohol Buys at various locations throughout Hernando County. A total of 17 locations were visited throughout the evening.

At the conclusion of the operation, nine clerks **did not permit** the sale of alcoholic beverages to the underage customer, successfully following the law. Clerks at eight businesses **did allow** the underage customer to purchase an alcoholic beverage, a violation of the Florida Beverage Law, F.S.S. 562.11.

The offenders are mandated to complete Responsible Vendor Training (RVT), an online course which is administered by the Hernando County Community Anti-Drug Coalition, within 30 days of the violation. The course reinforces the importance of responsible alcohol and tobacco sales and service, reviews Florida beverage laws and demonstrates practices on how to prevent alcohol sales to underage persons. The course must be completed by 11-30-2020.

Stores in VIOLATION (allowed the sale of alcohol to underage person) were as follows:

- **Marathon** – 4707 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL
- **Country Express** – 10455 N. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- **Blanche's Bait and Tackle** – 25143 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Brooksville Liquors** – 19510 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **New Hernando West Liquors/Sunset Lounge** – 5431 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill
- **Cumberland Farms** – 5244 Mariner Boulevard – Spring Hill, FL
- **Beverage 50** – 16370 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **7-Eleven** – 765 S. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL.

Stores in COMPLIANCE (did not allow the sale of alcohol to underage person) were as follows:

- **Mobil** – 4275 Mariner Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- **Circle K** – 14195 Elgin Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- **Super Discount Beverage and Smoke Shop** – 814 S. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- **7-Eleven** – 18226 Powell Road, Brooksville, FL
- **Beer Frog** – 14249 Powell Road, Spring Hill, FL
- **A&J Discount Liquor** – 5574 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL
- **Bill's Liquor Store** – 1010 Jefferson Street, Brooksville, FL
- **Dollar General** – 10395 N. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- **Kangaroo Gas Station** – 999 N. Broad Street, Brooksville, FL.

More operations of this nature are planned for the future.

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.