

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: Vice and Narcotics Search Warrant - 7185 Holiday Drive

Date: December 22, 2020

On 12-18-20, detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant at 7185 Holiday Drive in Spring Hill.

The residence has been an on-going problem within the community; the Hernando County Sheriff's Office has received numerous complaints and tips regarding illegal activity being conducted in and on the property. Complaints ranged from short-term traffic, suspicious persons, to frequent and various disturbances.

Between o8-01-2017 and 12-16-2020, a total of 520 calls for service have been logged at the residence. Recently, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office and Hernando County Fire and Emergency Services have responded to three separate "overdose" calls where Narcan (opioid overdose reversal spray) was utilized to reverse the overdose.

Using this information, along with other investigative techniques, a search warrant was obtained.

The owner of the residence, **Derby Morgan, W/F, DOB/02-09-1954**, was placed under arrest and charged as follows:

- Possession of Controlled Substance
- Possession of New Legend Drug w/o Prescription
- Possession of Controlled Substance Methamphetamine
- Possession of Paraphernalia
- Bond \$12,000.

The structure itself was without power and running water. There was evidence of a fire that occurred in a back bedroom of the residence, and wires hanging from the ceiling. These deplorable conditions were cause for concern with more than seven people living in the residence.

The Hernando County Building Department responded to inspect the structure and quickly determined it would be condemned, as it was unsafe. The owner, Morgan, was given a period of time to make the required improvements, otherwise the structure will be demolished.

Five additional individuals were located in the residence. They were each arrested and charged as follows:

- Brian Courtney W/M DOB/12-17-1987

- o Possession of Drug Equipment
- o Bond \$1,000

- Kristin Smart W/F DOB/11-03-1982

- Possession of Drug Equipment
- o Heroin Possession w/Intent to Sell, Manufacture, or Deliver
- Possess Structure/Vehicle to Sell Drugs
- o Bond \$26,000

- Shawn Thompson W/M DOB/10-05-1978

- Marijuana Possession (less than 20 grams)
- o Possession of Drug Equipment
- o False Name to LEO
- o Bond \$3,000

- Ismael Santos W/M DOB/07-08-1965

- o Heroin Possession w/Intent to Sell, Manufacture, or Deliver
- o Possess Structure/Vehicle to Sell Drugs
- Possession of Drug Equipment
- o Bond \$41,000

- Colton Zimmerman W/M DOB/10-03-1992

- Possession of Drug Equipment
- o Marijuana Possession (not more than 20 grams)
- o Bond \$2,000.

The investigation continues.

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.