



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

Media Release

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

Re: Three Suspects Arrested in Hernando Beach Trailer Theft

Date: January 27, 2021

On 01-26-2021 at 9:40 p.m., 911 dispatchers received a call from a resident on Turks Cap Drive in Hernando Beach in reference to unknown subjects attempting to attach a trailer to their truck.

The resident approached the individuals to ask what was going on but said the subjects quickly dismissed him, which made him suspicious.

The resident followed the individuals as they towed the trailer that contained three zero-turn lawn mowers down Shoal Line Boulevard.

Deputies were able to locate the suspects in the area of Shoal Line Boulevard and Calienta Street. The three individuals were identified as **Adam Logan DOB/11-22-1974, Tara Pantas DOB/11-21-1985, and Christopher Lillie DOB/12-12-1981.**

Investigation revealed that the victim had previously left the trailer on the side of Shoal Line Boulevard due to a mechanical issue with his vehicle.

The suspects had observed the trailer on the roadside and decided to take it. The suspects quickly connected the trailer to their truck and removed it from the area in an attempt to not be seen.

However, the trailer was not securely attached to their vehicle so the group pulled over to adjust it. This is when the suspects were observed by a resident who then reported the incident to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputies responded to the area to locate the suspects. It was determined that the subjects had unlawfully stolen the trailer and mowers. Deputies also located fentanyl in Logan's possession.

The owner of the trailer responded to the scene to positively identify the trailer and mowers. These items were returned to the victim.

Logan, Lillie, and Pantas were each charged with **Grand Theft – More than \$20,000, but less than \$100,000**. Additionally, Logan was charged with **Possession of Fentanyl**. All three were transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where Lillie and Pantas are being held in lieu of a \$5,000 each. Logan is being held on a \$7,000 bond.

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.