



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: Spring Hill Mother Arrested After Leaving 2-year-old Home Alone

Date: January 29, 2021

On 01-28-2021 at 9:40 a.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to a residence on Claymore Street in Spring Hill to serve a civil contempt order on the homeowner, Rhonda Williams.

Upon knocking on the door, a 2-year-old child opened the door. Moments later a vehicle driven by the child's mother, **Jasmine Waddy DOB/01-29-1998**, pulled into the driveway.

Waddy told deputies that Williams, who is Waddy's mother, was not home.

Waddy further advised the child's aunt was asleep inside the home. When deputies requested to speak to the aunt, Waddy closed the door.

A short time later Williams appeared from behind the home stating that she had been home asleep when the deputies first knocked. Deputies were able to locate a vehicle belonging to Williams parked on the street behind the house. Deputies noted the engine was still hot.

When confronted about the vehicle, Williams advised deputies she had not been home and only returned after Waddy called to inform her deputies were at the house.

Waddy told deputies she left the child at home alone so she could go to the store. Waddy advised she was only gone for 5 or 10 minutes.

Waddy was arrested on one charge of **Child Neglect**. Her bond was set at \$2,000.

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.