



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

**Re:** Underage Alcohol Sales and Compliance Checks – March 2021

**Date:** March 10, 2021

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On 03-09-2021, undercover detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office conducted Compliance Checks and Alcohol Buys at various locations throughout Hernando County. A total of 12 locations were visited throughout the evening.

At the conclusion of the operation, 10 clerks **did not permit** the sale of alcoholic beverages to the underage customer, successfully following the law. Clerks at two 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.

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

- **Blanche's Bait and Tackle** – 25143 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Chevron** – 4307 Shoal Line Boulevard, Hernando Beach, FL.

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

- **Bill's Liquor Store** – 1010 E. Jefferson Street, Brooksville, FL
- **New Hernando West Liquors/Sunset Lounge** – 5431 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill
- **Circle K** – 35075 Cortez Boulevard, Ridge Manor, FL
- **Mobil** – 717 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL
- **Winn Dixie** – 31080 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Liqueur Store** – 13449 County Line Road, Spring Hill, FL

- **Shop and Save Discount Beverage** – 351 Ponce De Leon Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Liquor Store** – 150 Mariner Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL
- **A1 Beverage** – 10540 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill, FL
- **Prime Time Food Store** – 7387 Shoal Line Boulevard – Hernando Beach, 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.***