



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 Nabbed Operating Stolen Boat by Victim's Home

Date: May 6, 2021

On 05-05-2021 at 10:48 a.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to Tilly Hawk Lane in Brooksville in reference to the caller/victim possibly locating a stolen boat.

The victim advised her 2017 Tracker Topper jon boat was stolen from her backyard on 03-05-2021. The victim was outside of her residence on 05-05-2021 when she noticed a boat on the lake that she believed to be her stolen jon boat.

Deputies arrived on scene and were able to locate three individuals who were fishing in the boat in question. The three men responded to shore to speak with the deputies. Those individuals were identified as **Jim Leasure DOB/10-27-1968, Richard Morgan Sr. DOB/02-06-1977, and Darren Morgan DOB/08-12-1980.**

Investigation revealed all three suspects had been using the victim's jon boat to fish for several weeks due to their vessel being inoperable.

The three suspects were each arrested on a charge of **Grand Theft**. They were transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where their bond was set at \$5,000 each.

The jon boat was returned to the victim.

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.