



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Registered Sex Offender Arrested While Driving Stolen Vehicle – 2022-13740

Date: May 16, 2022

On 05-10-22, detectives assigned to the Street Intelligence Unit (SIU) received information regarding a Suspicious Person in the Coastal Way Plaza, near the Ulta store.

The citizen told detectives that a white male had been observed in the parking lot, for several days in a row, and it appeared as though the male was watching females enter and exit the Ulta store. The observant citizen provided both a vehicle description (2002 Chevrolet Silverado) and tag number (Michigan - EBN733) on the vehicle the male was operating.

Investigation revealed, the vehicle (described by the citizen) was reported stolen from the state of Michigan.

Detectives determined the vehicle was being operated by 52 year-old, Daniel Randall, a registered sex offender, who recently moved to Hernando County from the state of Michigan.

Detectives conducted surveillance and searched various locations, in hopes of locating Randall and/or the stolen vehicle.

After several hours of surveillance, detectives located Randall, operating the stolen vehicle, as he attempted to exit the Frontier Campground in Brooksville. A traffic stop was then conducted.

Upon making contact with Randall, who was driving the stolen vehicle, detectives placed him in custody.

During an inventory search of the vehicle, prior to it being towed from the scene, detectives located a small plastic baggie containing a white crystal-like substance, which later tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine. A glass smoking pipe was also located in an article of clothing that was inside the vehicle.

Randall told detectives the methamphetamine and pipe belonged to him and that he did not possess a valid driver's license.

Daniel Robert Randall DOB/10-15-1969, was charged as follows:

- Grand Theft of Motor Vehicle
- Driving While License Suspended/Revoked
- Possession of Methamphetamine
- Possession of Paraphernalia.

During this time, Detective Kyle Wilson also had an open investigation involving Randall, regarding Randall's sex offender registration obligations.

In his initial sex offender registration with the HCSO on 05-04-22, Randall stated he "just came down yesterday" which would have been 05-03-22. He also stated he would be going to the DHSMV "tomorrow" to obtain a valid Florida ID card. Randall reported having one email address and no other electronic means of communication.

Through investigation, Detective Wilson learned that Randall actually arrived in Brooksville on 04-01-22, not 05-03-22. Sex Offenders and Predators are required to register with law enforcement within 48 hours of relocating their primary residence.

With assistance from Crime Analysts, Detective Wilson also discovered Randall had three active Facebook profiles, one Instagram profile, and one WhatsApp profile. Randall failed to report all of his social media profiles.

As Randall had already been delivered to the Hernando County Detention Center regarding the Grand Theft Motor Vehicle incident, Detective Wilson responded there to interview Randall and to add additional charges.

Randall admitted to being untruthful about the date he arrived in Brooksville. Randall also admitted to failing to provide his employment data during the initial registration, as he became employed during the month of April. Randall admitted he did not obtain, nor attempt to obtain a Florida ID card. Randall admitted to having all of the listed social media accounts, but stated he did not know he was supposed to report them. It should be noted that Randall was provided with a copy of his sex offender registration obligations and reporting requirements upon his initial registration.

Randall told detective Wilson that he was untruthful during his initial registration because he did not want to get in trouble.

Detective Wilson then charged Randall as follows:

- Failure to Report Establishment of Permanent Residence w/in 48 Hours
- Failure to Report Internet Identifiers (5 counts)
- Failure to Secure an Identification Card
- Failure to Report Change in Employment w/in 48 Hours
- Knowingly Provide False Registration Information by Act or Omission
- **No Bond** – Sexual Offenders are not eligible for release on bail or surety bond until First Appearance.

Randall remains in the Hernando County Detention Center. If released, he will be required to wear a GPS monitor.

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.