



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Underage Alcohol & Nicotine Sales and Compliance Checks – February - 2024

Date: February 28, 2024

On 02-28-2024, undercover detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, along with officers from the Department of Alcohol, Beverages, and Tobacco, conducted Compliance Checks and Alcohol/Nicotine Buys at various locations throughout Hernando County. A total of 11 locations were visited throughout the evening.

At the conclusion of the operation, **eight** clerks **did not permit** the sale of alcoholic beverages to the underage customer and **two** clerks **did not permit** the sale of nicotine/tobacco products to the underage customer, successfully following the law.

A clerk at **one** businesses **did allow** the underage customer to purchase nicotine/tobacco products, a violation of the Florida Beverage Law, F.S.S. 562.11.

The offender is mandated to complete Responsible Vendor Training (RVT), an online course which is administered by the Hernando Community 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.

Store in VIOLATION (allowed the sale of alcohol or tobacco products to underage person) were as follows:

- **XLNT Smoke Shop** – 19542 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL (nicotine/tobacco products)

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

- **Shell** – 19275 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Speedway** – 18635 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **7-Eleven** – 16125 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Circle K** – 13077 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **7-Eleven** – 10325 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Texaco** – 101 Ponce De Leon Boulevard, Brooksville, FL
- **Marathon** – 9020 Cobb Road, Brooksville, FL
- **Mobil** – 6200 Commercial Way, Brooksville, FL
- **Dr. Smoke Tobacco and Vapor** – 4384 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL
- **Higher Up Smoke Shop** – 7279 Forest Oaks Boulevard, Spring Hill, FL.

More operations of this nature are planned for the future.