



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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From: Michael Terry  
Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: Spring Hill Man Charged in DUI Crash Involving Six Vehicles – 2024-00101208

Date: February 29, 2024

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On 02-28-2024 at approximately 5:45 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to the site of a multi-vehicle crash near the intersection of Spring Hill Drive and Mariner Boulevard in Spring Hill.

Upon arrival, witnesses advised deputies that the suspect who caused the crash, later identified as **Jonathan Pudelek DOB/01-23-1981**, attempted to flee the scene following the crash.

Deputies immediately detained Pudelek until they could complete their investigation.

According to witnesses at the scene, Pudelek was driving recklessly when his vehicle rear-ended a vehicle whose driver was waiting on the traffic light to turn green at the intersection of Spring Hill Drive and Mariner Boulevard.

Following the collision, Pudelek then attempted to drive away. During his attempt to flee, Pudelek's vehicle struck another vehicle prior to running a red light and driving toward a nearby CVS Pharmacy parking lot. Witnesses advised Pudelek's vehicle proceeded to jump the curb where the vehicle first collided with two guy wires connected to a utility pole prior to hitting three vehicles parked in the parking lot.

Deputies noted Pudelek appeared to be impaired. Pudelek told deputies he had used methamphetamine several hours prior to the crash. A glass pipe with trace amounts of methamphetamine was located inside the Pudelek's vehicle.

Following the investigation, Pudelek was charged with Driving Under the Influence, Leaving the Scene of an Accident with Property Damage, No Florida Driver's License, Reckless Driving, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where he is being held in lieu of a \$9,500 bond.

***Hernando County Crime Stoppers / Anonymous Tips***

***If you have information on this case, please contact Hernando County Crime Stoppers. You will remain anonymous!***

***Hernando County Crime Stoppers can be reached by phone at 1-866-990-TIPS (8477) or \*\*TIPS from a cell phone.***

***You may also submit your tip via the internet at <http://www.hernandocountycrimestoppers.com> .***

***You will remain anonymous and also be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000 cash!***