



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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From: Kasey Johnson  
Community Relations Coordinator, 352-797-3660

Re: Weeki Wachee Man Arrested for Violation of Sex Offender Reporting  
Requirements – 2024-03458

Date: February 29, 2024

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On 02-27-2024, Sex Offender **Joseph Brendt Bauer/DOB 08-17-1982**, was arrested for **Failure to Report Change of Vehicle Ownership within 48 hours**, as required by Florida State Statute.

Bauer was found guilty in 2005, in Hillsborough County, for **Lewd or Lascivious Battery on Victim 12-15 Years of Age**. This conviction designated Bauer, as a sexual offender in the state of Florida with registration requirements.

During a call for service, regarding a civil issue at Bauer's residence, multiple vehicles were observed and found to be registered to the address. It was discovered that Bauer had access to drive some of these vehicles for personal use.

Per registration requirements for sex offenders, Bauer is required to report any vehicles of use or change of vehicles within 48 hours at any sheriff's office in the state of Florida. Bauer did not report any of the vehicles registered and available for his use at his registered residential address.

For this violation, Detective Marcacci placed Bauer under arrest and charged him as follows:

**Ct. 1: Fail to Report Change of Vehicle Ownership within 48 hours**

Bauer was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center, where he is currently being held on a \$5,000 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!***