



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
Director of Public Relations, 352-797-3609

Re: Weeki Wachee Man Charged with Trafficking Illegal Substances and Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon – 2024-00142545

Date: April 26, 2024

On 04-26-24 just after 1 a.m., Deputy Austin Clayton (Traffic Unit) observed a 2018 Toyota Tacoma traveling at a high rate of speed in the area of Commercial Way and Pepper Street in Spring Hill.

Using radar, Deputy Clayton captured the speed of the Tacoma at 75 mph, in a posted 55 mph zone.

Deputy Clayton conducted a traffic stop on the driver of Tacoma.

Upon contacting the driver, identified as Kenneth Vogel, Deputy Clayton advised the reason for the stop and requested Vogel's driver's license, registration, and proof of insurance.

When Vogel began searching through a black wallet for the requested documents, Deputy Clayton observed a small plastic baggie, containing two small pills, fall from the wallet and land in Vogel's lap. When asked what was in the baggie, Vogel grabbed the baggie and dropped it between the driver's seat and the center console.

At this time, Deputy Clayton asked Vogel to exit the vehicle. Vogel was placed in handcuffs and detained in the back of the patrol vehicle. After being read his Miranda rights, Vogel stated that he did not wish to speak with the deputy.

Deputies conducted a search of Vogel's vehicle and located the following items:

- One small green baggie containing two small green pills, later identified as Alprazolam (schedule 4 controlled substance)

- One Sig Sauer P365 with eight rounds of ammunition in the magazine
- One clear plastic straw with a white powdery residue
- One black and silver scale
- One additional magazine, in a magazine holster, containing 10 rounds of ammunition
- One black and clear glass smoking device (bong)
- One black scale
- One blue plastic container containing a white crystal-like substance – the substance weighed 255.5 grams and later tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine
- One blue plastic container containing:
 - o a white crystal-like substance (in baggie) – the substance weighed 0.7 grams and later tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine
 - o a white rock-like substance (in baggie) – the substance weighed 4.3 grams and later tested positive for the presence of cocaine
 - o a white rock-like substance (in baggie) – the substance weighed 14.1 grams and later tested positive for the presence of cocaine
 - o a white rock-like substance (in baggie) – the substance weighed 11.5 grams and later tested positive for the presence of cocaine
 - o a white powdery substance (in baggie) – the substance weighed 28.2 grams and later tested positive for the presence of cocaine
 - o several empty clear plastic baggies.

In total, deputies located 58.1 grams of substances that tested positive for cocaine and 256.2 grams of substances that tested positive for methamphetamine.

A criminal history check on Vogel revealed a conviction for Aggravated Assault w/Weapon in 2018. There was no record of Vogel having his rights restored.

Kenneth William Vogel DOB/08-20-1998 was placed under arrest and charged as follows:

- Felon in Possession of Firearm – No Bond
- Trafficking in Cocaine / More than 28 Grams – No Bond
- Trafficking in Methamphetamine / More than 200 Grams – No Bond
- Possession of Controlled Substance – Bond \$2,500
- Possession of Paraphernalia – Bond \$1,000.