



## 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: Spring Hill Sex Offender Arrested for Probation Violations and Failure to Report - 202400207708

Date: July 23, 2024

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The Hernando County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) arrested a sex offender for failure to comply with Sex Offender Reporting Requirements.

**Jay Alan Morse Jr., DOB/01-16-2002**, was arrested on one count of **Failure to Comply with Sex Offender Reporting Requirements**.

Morse was adjudicated guilty in 2019 in Hernando County for **Lewd or Lascivious Molestation, Victim Under 12 Years Old Offender Under 18 years old**. This conviction designated Morse as a Sexual Offender in the state of Florida with registration requirements.

Information was received that Sex Offender, Morse had violated his probation by using illicit drugs (Methamphetamine and Marijuana) as well as by utilizing a secondary cell phone, which had not been reported to authorities as required as a result of his sex offender status.

On 07-22-2024, Morse was requested by the Florida Department of Corrections Probation and Parole to respond to the probation office for a drug screening. The urine sample provided by Morse tested positive for Marijuana, which in turn placed him in violation of his probation conditions. A search was then conducted on Morse's cell phone by probation and parole. Pornography images and an unregistered phone number was found listed under the contact name "Tanner Smith," which is a known alias name Morse uses.

Detective G. Marcacci made contact with Morse at the probation office and determined the phone number listed under Morse's alias had not been registered on his sex offender profile. Morse admitted that he utilized the phone number in question to make outgoing calls and view social media accounts online.

With Morse failing to report this alternate phone number, as required, he was placed under arrest for the following sexual offender reporting violations:

- FAILURE TO REPORT CHANGE IN PHONE NUMBER

With the failure to report, as well as the failed drug screening, Morse was also charged with two counts of violation to his current probation status.

- PROBATION VIOLATION, FAILURE TO COMPLY
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Morse was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center, where he is being held on a **No Bond** status.



**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!**