



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: UPDATE - Security Guard Charged with Attempted Murder

Date: December 6, 2018

Update

On 12-05-18, the defendant, Brian Murphy, entered a plea deal to all six counts as charged. Murphy was sentenced to LIFE IN PRISON for the heinous crimes he committed on March 27, 2014.

Murphy's charges were as follows:

- Count 1 – Murder in the First Degree – Premeditated
- Count 2 - Murder in the First Degree – Premeditated
- Count 3 – Burglary of a Dwelling While Armed – Person 65 or Older
- Count 4 – Burglary of a Dwelling w/Assault
- Count 5 – Burglary Occupied Structure
- Count 6 – Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis and the men and women of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the men and women at the State Attorney's Office of the Fifth Judicial Circuit for working so closely with us to bring this violent criminal to justice.

Original Media Release – 03-27-2014

On 03-27-14 at approximately 12:38 a.m., the Hernando County Sheriff's Office received a 9-1-1 call from an individual at the Atria at Evergreen Woods, located at 7030 Evergreen Woods Trail in Brooksville. The caller advised the 9-1-1 operator there was a suspect on scene beating up the security guard.

Deputies were promptly dispatched to the scene.

As per protocol, the 9-1-1 operator maintained contact with the caller in an effort to continually retrieve updated information. The updated information was in turn provided to units responding to the scene.

Within four minutes, the first deputy arrived on scene and was directed to the location of the disturbance. The deputy immediately engaged a white male suspect and took the suspect into custody.

The on duty security guard at the Atria at Evergreen Woods was fighting with the suspect when deputies arrived.

Witness testimony revealed that the suspect, Brian Christopher Murphy (a weekend security guard at the Atria at Evergreen Woods), entered the facility shortly before being spotted by a nurse who alerted security.

While inside the facility, before being detected, Murphy entered the rooms of two elderly residents and battered each resident with a blunt object.

Miriam Lepp, 88 years of age, and Joseph Giambrone, 83 years of age, both residents at the Atria at Evergreen Woods, were battered by Murphy. Both were transported by Hernando County Fire/Rescue to a bay area trauma center with life threatening injuries.

Jonathan Sousa was the security guard on duty at the time of the incident. Sousa immediately engaged Murphy when called upon by the nursing staff. His immediate action prevented further injury to residents and staff until the arrival of law enforcement.

Detectives charged **Brian Christopher Murphy W/M DOB/09-03-1991** as follows:

- Attempted Murder with a Deadly Weapon (2 counts)
- Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon
- No Bond.

The Office of Sheriff:

The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.