



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

Media Release

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

Re: K-9 Justice Helps Apprehend Pasco County Wanted Person in Brooksville

Date: January 12, 2021

On 01-11-21 at 6:45 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to 600 Darby Lane in Brooksville to assist Pasco Sheriff's Office deputies in searching for a wanted subject.

Deputies were able to make contact with an individual residing in apartment No. 40 at the Darby Lane address.

The resident indicated she had not heard from the wanted subject, **Andre Phillips DOB/10-08-1998**.

While deputies were speaking to the woman at the front door, Cpl. S. Miller and K-9 Justice were positioned near the back door.

Phillips exited a rear window and proceeded to flee the area on foot with Cpl. Miller and K-9 Justice in pursuit.

After failing to comply with numerous commands to stop running, Cpl. Miller deployed K-9 Justice who was able to bite Phillips on the left leg.

Phillips was taken into custody without further incident.

Phillips was transported to an area hospital for treatment of a dog bite that required 18 stitches.

The woman at the apartment advised deputies she lied about knowing Phillips' whereabouts because she feared retaliation.

Phillips was charged with **Resisting/Obstructing an Officer without Violence**. He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where he has a \$1,000 bond.

Phillips also has hold placed on him for a Pasco County warrant for **Failure to Appear, Larceny, and Larceny Grand Theft.**

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, ran unopposed in 2016, and was re-elected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.