



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Incident Reported as a Shooting Behind Walmart on Cortez Boulevard – 2022-17607

Date: June 15, 2022

On 06-14-2022, at approximately 4 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the Walmart, located at 13300 Cortez in Brooksville, regarding what was reported as a Shooting.

A representative from Walmart called 9-1-1 to report a Shooting, when requested to do so by a male (with a small amount of blood on his arm) entered the store and requested someone to call 9-1-1 "because he had been shot."

The first deputy arrived approximately 90 seconds after the call was dispatched.

Upon arrival, deputies were met by a male who was holding his right arm. Deputies immediately noticed a superficial wound and a small amount of blood on his arm.

The male told deputies he was behind Walmart when he thought he heard a gunshot. After hearing what he thought was a gunshot, the male noticed a wound bleeding on his right forearm.

Deputies asked the male if he knew who shot him. The male responded with, "I know, but I'm not going to tell you." The male went on to say, "I didn't want any problems, I just want to go to the hospital."

While speaking with the male, deputies detected the odor of alcohol and noted his speech was slurred.

While being treated by paramedics, the male told them he had not been shot, and had "picked a scab."

The male was transported to a local hospital by Hernando County Fire and Emergency Services. Upon examination by a physician, it was confirmed that the small superficial wound was not a gunshot wound. The physician told deputies he was preparing to discharge the patient, as there was no medical need.

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.