



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: Vice & Narcotics Search Warrant – 10442 Parkside Court

Date: July 13, 2022

On 07-13-2022, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a residential search warrant at 10442 Parkside Court in Spring Hill.

The Vice and Narcotics Unit was recently made aware of a possible narcotics dealer who resided at the Mariner Cay Apartments off of Northcliffe Boulevard.

Subsequent investigation revealed that a suspect, **Eric Van Slyke DOB/02-09-1989**, residing at 10442 Parkside Court, was the individual who was dealing in narcotics -- specifically cocaine.

An undercover operation was initiated which resulted in narcotics purchases for cocaine being made from Van Slyke within the apartment complex.

Further investigation revealed that Van Slyke is currently on felony probation until the year 2025 and is a documented gang member. Van Slyke was found to have served prison time within the New York Department of Corrections for felonies to include **Robbery, Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell, and Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer.**

Evidence was developed to obtain a search warrant for the 10442 Parkside Court address. Upon execution of the search warrant, detectives located the following items belonging to Van Slyke:

- 7.7 grams of Powdered Cocaine
- 6.7 grams of Crack Cocaine
- 40 tablets of Amphetamine + Dextroamphetamine tablets (14.4 grams)
- 14 tablets of Alprazolam
- 9mm Taurus handgun
- 120 rounds of 9mm ammunition
- 4.2 grams of Marijuana

- **\$1,322 in U.S. currency**

On 07-13-2022, Van Slyke was taken into custody at the Hernando County Probation and Parole Office in Brooksville. Probation officials in Florida and New York confirmed that Van Slyke served a three-year prison sentence in New York from 2017-2020, prior to moving to Florida.

Van Slyke's probation was violated due to the items located during the search warrant and for the sale of narcotics. Van Slyke was issued a "no bond" status as a result of the Violation of Probation.

Van Slyke was charged as follows:

2022-16177 – Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 feet of a Place of Worship, Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell, Unlawful Use of a Two Way Communication Device, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond -- \$21,000.

2022-16885 – Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 feet of a Place of Worship, Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell, Unlawful Use of a Two Way Communication Device, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond -- \$21,000.

2022-18347 – Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 feet of a Place of Worship, Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell, Unlawful Use of a Two Way Communication Device, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond -- \$21,000.

2022-20175 – Armed Trafficking in Amphetamine, Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell, Possession of Crack Cocaine with Intent to Sell, Possession of a Structure for the Sale of a Controlled Substance, Possession of a Controlled Substance (Alprazolam), Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Possession of Ammunition by a Convicted Felon, Possession of Marijuana, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond -- \$78,000.

Van Slyke was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where his total bond was set at \$141,000.

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.