



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Detectives Arrest Spring Hill Transient for Residential Burglary – 2024-00141267

Date: April 24, 2024

On 04-23-24, a complaint was received by the HCSO from a citizen who voiced concerns about a burglary that occurred at his residence. The citizen stated that two bicycles had been stolen from his front porch. The citizen went on to say that a male suspect entered his porch and stole one bicycle. The same suspect returned 30 minutes later and stole the second one.

The complaint was sent to District Two, as that is where the crime occurred.

A District Two deputy contacted the citizen and learned the bicycles were stolen on 04-22-24; however, the citizen had not yet contacted the HCSO to file a report.

Detectives responded to the citizen's residence. After viewing surveillance footage, one of the detectives immediately recognized the suspect.

The suspect was identified as Paul Geles, a known transient in the Spring Hill area.

Detectives and patrol deputies responded to the last known location of Geles. While Geles was not there, detectives immediately observed one of the stolen bicycles. Detectives collected the bicycle from the scene.

While on scene, detectives obtained statements from several witnesses which established additional probable cause for the arrest of Geles.

Detectives returned the bicycle to the victim and continued searching for Geles and the other bicycle.

Shortly after returning the first bicycle, deputies and detectives located Geles on Commercial Way near Spring Hill Drive.

Geles was taken into custody without incident. Post Miranda, Geles admitted to committing both burglaries.

Paul Edward Geles DOB/09-05-1977 was placed under arrest and charged as follows:

- Burglary to a Residence (2 counts)
- No Bond.

Detectives have not yet located the second stolen bicycle.

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!