



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**From:** Michael Terry  
Deputy PIO, 352-238-4801

**Re:** Vice and Narcotics Search Warrant – 871 Josephine Street, Brooksville

**Date:** April 28, 2020

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On 04-24-2020, detectives with the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Vice and Narcotics Unit executed a residential search warrant at 871 Josephine Street in Brooksville.

Information was received regarding the distribution of narcotics occurring at this location.

Investigation revealed the resident, **David Gayle B/M DOB/10-12-1976**, was selling narcotics from the residence.

During the execution of the search warrant, a thorough search of the residence was conducted, which led to the discovery of a trafficking amounts (over 2.2 pounds) of fentanyl and methamphetamine. Detectives also located 6.6 grams of cocaine, 1.1 grams of oxycodone, 13.1 grams of hashish, .4 grams of marijuana, in addition to various drug paraphernalia.

This amount of fentanyl is capable of producing more than 500,000 potentially fatal doses of the synthetic drug.

Gayle was charged as follows:

- **Trafficking in Fentanyl**
- **Trafficking in Methamphetamine**
- **Possession of Oxycodone**
- **Possession of Cocaine**
- **Possession of Marijuana**
- **Possession of Paraphernalia**
- **Possession of a Structure known for Manufacturing Drugs with a Minor Present.**

In addition to the charges listed above, Gayle was also arrested on warrants for two counts each of the **Sale of Heroin with 1,000 feet on a Place of Worship, Possession of Heroin with**

## **Intent to Sell, Possession of Conveyance for Sale of Heroin, Possession of Paraphernalia, and the Unlawful Use of a Two-Way Communication Device.**

Gayle's bond was set at \$215,000.

“Anyone who believes that illegal drug trafficking is a victimless crime does not understand the killing power in the roughly 2 pounds of drugs seized during this particular investigation,” said Sheriff Al Nienhuis. “We can never measure what we prevent, but it is a very good bet that this quantity of fentanyl would have resulted in a number of overdose deaths right here in Hernando County. Fortunately, if convicted, this dealer, due to his extensive criminal history, faces life in prison. Our hope is that this sends a clear message that drug trafficking is not tolerated in Hernando County. My Vice and Narcotics team is constantly doing their part to maintain Hernando County as a great place to live, work and play.”

### **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 remains accountable to them.**