



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Michael Terry
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Re: HCSO Nabs Grand Theft Suspect

Date: July 2, 2020

On 06-16-2020, Hernando County Sheriff's deputies took a report involving two stolen generators.

The victim told deputies she permitted the suspect to borrow a generator on 06-12-2020, as long as he returned it the same day. The victim, who was leaving to go out of town that same day, said she trusted the suspect would return the generator as promised.

The victim returned home on 06-16-2020 to find the generator was not returned.

In addition, the victim reported a second generator, \$700 cash, and 100 Oxycontin pills were also missing from her residence.

The victim identified the suspect as **Philip Scalise DOB/10-02-1982**.

Detectives were able to determine Scalise had pawned both generators, one on 06-12-2020 and the second on 06-13-2020.

On 06-27-2020, detectives located Scalise staying at the Microtel on Commercial Way in Spring Hill. Scalise was immediately arrested.

Scalise confessed to taking the generators and pawning them. Scalise told detectives he pawned the items to fund his drug addiction.

Scalise was charged as follows:

- Grand Theft
- Dealing in Stolen Property (two counts)
- Defrauding a Pawn Broker (two counts)

His bond was set at \$10,000.

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 remains accountable to them.