



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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From: Denise M. Moloney  
Public Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

Re: Sexual Predator Arrest – Albert Lee Gardner – 2023-21949

Date: July 12, 2023

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On 07-08-23 just before 2 a.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 7-Eleven, located at 765 S. Broad Street in Brooksville, to provide assistance to Probation and Parole.

The Probation and Parole officer, who was already on scene, was attempting to locate Albert Lee Gardner, as Gardner's GPS tracking device had been tracking at this location for an unusual amount of time.

Gardner was nowhere to be found.

Deputies and the officer proceeded to check several different locations throughout the City of Brooksville. Gardner was still nowhere to be found.

Deputies returned to the 7-Eleven, where the GPS device was still tracking, and located it in a garbage can on the property.

Minutes after locating the GPS device, deputies heard a call, regarding an overdose, being dispatched. The overdose was occurring at 635 W. Fort Dade Avenue in Brooksville. Deputies responded.

Upon arrival, deputies observed the person who had overdosed was in fact, Albert Gardner.

Deputies deployed Narcan to Gardner, reversing the overdose.

Gardner was transported to Bravera Health Brooksville, by ambulance, where he was medically cleared by physicians.

**Albert Lee Gardner DOB/11-05-1993** was placed under arrest and transported to the Hernando County Detention Center. Gardner was charged as follows:

- VOP / Lewd and Lascivious Battery w/Victim 12-15 Years Old
- Tampering w/Electronic Monitoring Device
- No Bond.

*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.*