

—— SHERIFF —— Al Nienhuis

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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<u>Media Release</u>

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

Re: UPDATE - Probation Officer Charged with Battery – 2022-02152

Date: May 10, 2024

UPDATE - SENTENCING INFORMATION

On 05-09-24, Judge Hitzemann ordered Raul Marrero to serve two years in jail as follows:

- Battery (2 counts) 364 days
- Battery (2 counts) 364 days.

ORIGINAL INFORMATION - 12-06-2022

In January 2022, a female victim reported to the Florida Department of Corrections and the Hernando County Sheriff's Office that she was battered/touched and kissed inappropriately by Probation Officer Raul Marrero Jr.

She reported he had inappropriately touched her (an unwanted touch) while at her home for probationary reasons and while she was a patient in a local hospital. A cooperative investigation was immediately initiated between law enforcement and the Department of Corrections to fully investigate these allegations.

Due to these allegations Marrero was removed from his position as a probation officer and reassigned within DOC (no contact with females) while the investigations took place.

While the above case was being investigated by law enforcement, in April 2022 another female victim came forward and reported that Probation Officer Raul Marrero Jr. had inappropriately touched/battered (unwanted touch) and kissed her while at her home for

probationary reasons. A second cooperative investigation with law enforcement and the Department of Corrections was initiated.

In October 2022, a third victim reported to the Department of Corrections that Probation Officer Raul Marrero Jr. had inappropriately kissed her against her will while at her home for probationary reasons. A third cooperative investigation with both law enforcement and the Department of Corrections was initiated.

As a result of all three investigations by both law enforcement and Department of Corrections, Raul Marrero Jr. was arrested on 12-06-2022 on three counts of **Misdemeanor Battery**.

Due to Marcy's Law, the victims will not be identified.

If you have any information in regards to these cases, please contact the Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830.