



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Michael Terry
Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: Dade City Man Arrested on Drug and Possession of Stolen Firearm charges –
2024-00187542

Date: June 28, 2024

On 06-26-2024, a Hernando County Sheriff's deputy on proactive patrol in the area of Cortez Boulevard and McKethan Road in Brooksville attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the driver of a vehicle for a traffic violation.

Deputy D. Castoria initially lost sight of the vehicle while turning around, however a Good Samaritan in the area was able to provide the deputy with a direction of travel for the vehicle.

Deputy Castoria traveled west on Puckett Street where he located the driver, later identified as **Willie Reed III DOB/11-09-2004**, standing outside of the vehicle with the driver side door open. The deputy noted Reed was in possession of a plastic baggie that contained a green leafy substance. The substance later tested positive for marijuana.

During a search of the vehicle Deputy Castoria located a loaded firearm under the front passenger seat. A query of the firearm's serial number showed it was reported stolen out of Lake County.

The deputy also located a small glass bottle that contained a yellowish waxy residue, which later tested positive for THC.

Reed was arrested at the scene on charges of **Grand Theft, Possession of Cannabis Concentrate, and Possession of Marijuana.**

He was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where his bond was set at \$6,000.

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!