



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Monday, December 4, 2017

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Two Flagler Fugitives Arrested

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office assisted the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF) in arresting Johnnie Spydale Thomas Jr., DOB 5/27/1993, on Sunday at 52 Filbert Lane in Palm Coast.

Detectives received information that Thomas may be located at the Filbert address. Upon arriving on scene, deputies made contact with a woman later identified as Jayla Teyanna Steward, DOB 6/21/1998. Steward initially told deputies that no one else was in the residence but later allowed officials to search the home. Thomas was located hiding in a master bedroom closet by Sheriff's deputies and ATF agents on scene and taken into custody.



Johnnie Spydale Thomas Jr. and Jayla Teyanna Steward.

A joint agency initiative in September, Operation Heat Seeker, sought Thomas for federal charges of sale and possession of cocaine and felony possession of a firearm. He was arrested on Sunday and charged with being a fugitive from justice and a Flagler County warrant for failure to appear, a felony offense. Thomas has been featured in Sheriff Staly's top ten Flagler Fugitives on the Flagler Sheriff's website. He remains in the Flagler County Detention Facility with no bond.

Steward was found to have an active Flagler County warrant for her arrest as well for violation of probation. She was arrested and taken to the Flagler County Detention Facility with no bond.

"Another example of two agencies working together to get the bad guys off the streets," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "We were happy to assist ATF in the warrant service for Johnnie Thomas, and in return we located another Flagler fugitive to take into custody. Now both are booked into the Green Roof Inn."

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