



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Friday, November 2, 2018

Contact: Brittany Kershaw; (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

FCSO Issues 'Cease & Desist' Order to Dakota Joe's

While investigating the armed robbery of Dakota Joe's, a senior entertainment center located at 2245 S. Old Dixie Hwy in Bunnell, detectives discovered gaming devices in the establishment that pay winners in money or items of value. This is a violation of Florida State Statute (FSS) 849.01, Keeping a Gambling House, and makes the owner liable for criminal charges under FSS 849.03. Additionally, employees and customers may be criminally charged.

"These internet cafes are illegal in Florida and often become targets for crimes," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Unfortunately, that is exactly what happened at this business. Now that the Florida's First District Court of Appeals has issued its ruling it is time for Dakota Joe's and any similar business operating in Flagler County to cut their losses and close their doors or face arrest."

In April 2013, Governor Rick Scott signed House Bill 155 affirming that internet cafes and adult arcades are not exempt from gambling laws.

A cease and desist order was delivered to the business owner, Angelo Petta Jr., and the landlord, Pranav Shah, on Thursday evening. The letter serves as a final notice, giving owners forty-eight hours to cease all illegal gambling or face a full criminal investigation.

The investigation into Sunday's armed robbery at Dakota Joe's is ongoing.

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Date: Monday, October 29, 2018

Contact: Brittany Kershaw; (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

FCSO Investigating Commercial Armed Robbery

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to a commercial robbery on Sunday night at 11:45 p.m. Two employees were leaving Dakota Joe's, a senior entertainment center located at 2245 S.

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Old Dixie Hwy in Bunnell, when they were approached by an unknown male with a handgun.

The male demanded money from the business and forced the two employees back into the building. While the employee showed the suspect where the money was hidden, the suspect struck the employee numerous times in the head with the firearm until he fell to the floor. The suspect left the business in a newer model black 4-door vehicle, possibly a Nissan Altima, with chrome wheels and tinted windows.



From left: The suspect is in the gray hoodie. Middle and right: Suspect's vehicle.

The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 5'8, 180 pounds, wearing a grey hooded sweatshirt with the hood pulled around his face. He was wearing dark plaid shorts and white Nike shoes. He was last seen getting into the front passenger side of the vehicle that was waiting for him in front of the business.

“Thankfully no one lost their life in this incident, but we do have one victim with serious head injuries,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “As this investigation continues, our hope is to quickly identify the suspect and his driver. Armed robbery is not the way to earn a quick buck. Instead it'll land you a stay in the Green Roof Inn and then prison.”

Anyone with information on in this case is asked to contact the FCSO at 386-313-4911 and mention case number 2018-101675. You may also email TIPS@flaglersheriff.com or call Crime Stoppers of Northeast Florida at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477). You could be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000.00.

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