



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

## **FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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

---

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** Monday, June 3, 2019

**Prepared by:** Shannon Martin

**Phone and Email:** (386) 586-4802; [martin@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:martin@flaglersheriff.com)

**Release #:** 127

## **Traffic Stop Results in Narcotics Arrest – Passenger Still At Large After Battering Deputy and Fleeing from the Scene**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) deputies initiated a traffic stop on a silver Mercury at the intersection of Palm Harbor Parkway and Farmsworth Drive, for traveling too closely behind another vehicle.



*Pictured Above: Rahim Booker moments before he batters an FCSO deputy and flees from the traffic stop.*

Deputies made contact with the driver, Ty-Lee Austin (19 years old), and front passenger, Rahim Booker, and asked for proof of registration and valid insurance. While waiting for Austin to provide these documents, Deputy Smith and his K-9 partner arrived on scene to conduct an exterior sweep of his vehicle. During the sweep Deputy Smith's K-9 alerted on the car.

Deputies advised Austin of the alert and requested his passenger, Booker, exit the vehicle so a probable cause search could be conducted. Booker exited the vehicle and began reaching inside his pockets. When deputies instructed him not to do so, Booker quickly entered the vehicle and grabbed a small black backpack. Booker then

---

*Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917  
A Four Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820

Mailing: P.O. Box 879, Bunnell, FL 32110

[www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)

intentionally struck a deputy and fled the traffic stop on foot.

FCSO pursued Booker and continuously instructed him to stop running. Deputies lost visual on Booker near Farmsowrth Drive. A perimeter was immediately established and a search for Booker was conducted with K-9 and helicopter support for two hours before being suspended.

This is not Booker's first run-in with law enforcement. He was previously arrested in August of 2018 for Possession of Marijuana with Intent to sell, and Possession of a Hallucinogen with Intent to Sell.

"This is a poison peddler who has obviously learned nothing from his previous arrest," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "For whatever reason he thought it was a better idea to fight our deputies and run. Thankfully, no one was seriously injured last night. If you know where he is call us 386-313-4911. We need to get him off the streets and booked into the Green Roof Inn where he belongs."

Afterwards, a probable cause search of the vehicle revealed a metal spoon with an unknown yellow/green substance and a glass mason jar containing 8 grams of cannabis. When questioned, Austin told deputies that the substance on the metal spoon was ice cream. When tested, yellow/green substance tested positive for Mephedrone.

Ty-Lee Austin was arrested and charged with Possession of Marijuana 20 Grams or Less, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Possession of Cathinone's.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Rahim Booker for Failure to Obey a Police Officer, Resisting and Officer with Violence, and Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer.

If you have any information on his whereabouts please call 386-313-4911 or email FCSO AT [tips@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:tips@flaglersheriff.com). You can also call CrimeStoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS where you could be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000.00.

Video of the incident can be seen here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/cyamgx9efp7x9d0/19-51544%20battery%20on%20LEO.mp4?dl=0>

###

---

*Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917*  
*A Four Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820

Mailing: P.O. Box 879, Bunnell, FL 32110

[www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)