

Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 Prepared by: Brittany Kershaw Phone and Email: (386) 586-2637; <u>bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com</u> Release #: 128

UPDATE: Suspect Turned Himself In, Released After Posting Bond

Around 9:40 p.m. on Monday evening, wanted subject Rahim Booker turned himself in to the St. John's County Sheriff's Office in St. Augustine, Florida, accompanied by a bail bondsman. He was processed at the jail and released after posting the \$11,000.00 bond.



BOOKER, RI	AHIM ZSHATIECE I GOD	(B/ MALE)	
Status:	Released		
Booking No:	SJSO19JBN002583	MniNo:	SJSO17MNI026848
Booking Date:	06/03/2019 09:46 PM	Released:	06/04/2019 12:00 AM
Age On Booking Da	ate: 23		
Bond Amount:	\$11000.00		
Address Given:	57 BURROUGHS DR PALM COAST, FL 32137		

<u>Enlarge Photo</u>

Booking information from http://www.sjso.org

"I am glad that he decided to turn himself in," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Unfortunately the bond was low enough that he is already out. Now we wait for the court process to begin so that he can face his charges."

The warrants on Booker are for Failure to Obey a Police Officer, Resisting an Officer with Violence, and Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer.

Original News Release Below:

Date: Monday, June 3, 2019 Prepared by: Shannon Martin Phone and Email: (386) 586-4802; <u>martin@flaglersheriff.com</u> Release #: 127

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

On June 3rd 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 no to do so, Booker quickly entered the vehicle and grabbed a small black backpack. Booker then 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 Farmsworth 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."

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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 Cathinones.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Rahim Booker for Failure to Obey a Police Officer, Resisting an 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. 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

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