



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

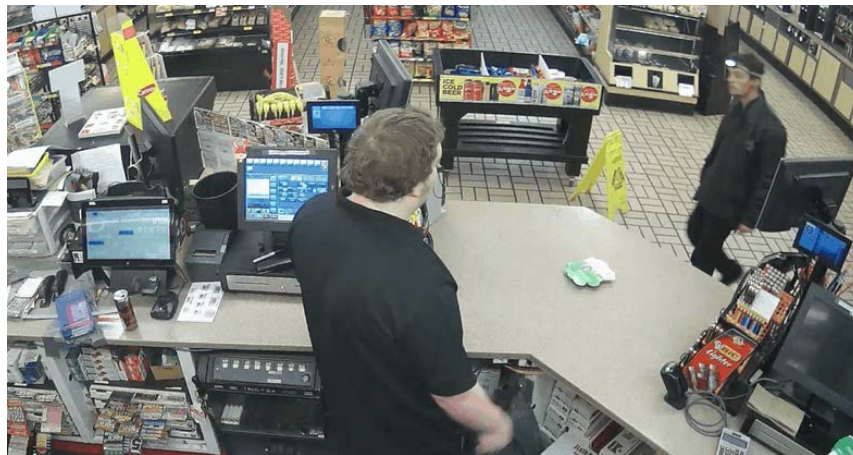
NEWS RELEASE

Date: Monday, March 18, 2019

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

Transient Commits Strong Arm Robbery for Cigarettes, Tobacco then Resists Arrest

Early Sunday morning around 4:00 a.m. the store clerk at the Shell gas station at 890 Palm Coast Parkway reported a robbery. The clerk reported that a known homeless man entered the store and walked directly behind the counter. He took a pack of cigarettes and a can of tobacco and punched the clerk in the face when he tried to stop him. The suspect then fled from the store on a bicycle prior to Law Enforcement arrival.



Taylor walking into the Shell convenience store on Sunday morning.

Deputies made contact with a male in the parking lot of Kohl's who admitted to the incident. The male was positively identified as Justin James Taylor from prior Law Enforcement encounters. While attempting to detain Taylor, he balled his fists and attempted to lunge at deputies and then fled on foot towards the Verizon parking lot.

Deputy Oldham pursued Taylor on foot and apprehended him without injury. Taylor continued to struggle with deputies and resisted arrest.

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Taylor was taken into custody and charged with Strong Arm Robbery, Resisting Arrest with Violence, and Trespass after Warning. Taylor had been previously trespassed from the Shell convenience store on January 20, 2019 under Case No. 2019-6010. He was booked into the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility where he is being held without bond.

“Not only did he blatantly rob and punch the store clerk but he then threatened to fight my deputies,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “Thankfully no one sustained any serious injuries. I’m proud of our team for quickly catching and bringing this criminal to justice.”

The value of the stolen items totaled \$14.77. The cigarettes and chewing tobacco were recovered from Taylor after placing him under arrest. Surveillance footage from the convenience store captured the incident and is available here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nX98uhCuDqLYh4UQhoNzbksb-31KH3qH>

Taylor has a prior arrest history in Flagler County for domestic battery, aggravated assault, abuse of the elderly, trespassing, and violation of probation.

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901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – www.flaglersheriff.com