



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Friday, April 12, 2019

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FCSO's Technology Takes 3-Year New York Fugitive Off the Street

Acting on a tip from the St. John's County Sheriff's Office after an LPR hit in St. Johns County, Flagler County Sheriff's deputies began searching for a 2018 gray Dodge Journey with Florida tag BWHP51 that was reported stolen in South Carolina from Avis Car Rental.



Changa Bush in Friday's booking photo.

The stolen vehicle hit an automatic license plate reader (LPR) in Flagler County and was spotted by a deputy on patrol around 7 a.m. Friday morning. The deputy was able to track the vehicle to a Sunoco gas station in Bunnell. A felony traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle, however, the driver and sole occupant refused to identify himself or answer any questions. Multiple fraudulent driver's licenses and fraudulent credit cards were located in his possession.

Deputies used Rapid ID to learn the driver's identity. Rapid ID scans a person's fingerprint and transmits it directly to the State Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). Fingerprint-based identity results are returned immediately to the deputy in the field, including any criminal history the person may have and was implemented by FCSO in 2018.

Rapid ID identified the driver as Changa E. Bush, DOB 6/29/1978, and showed that he had an active fugitive warrant for parole violation from New York since 2016 that ordered him held without bond.

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Changa was arrested and charged with Grand Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Driving without a License, along with the fugitive warrant from New York. He has been booked into the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility where he will be held without bond. Once he faces his charges in Flagler County, he will be extradited to New York to face his charges there.

“This is exactly why we implemented Radid ID and LPRs in Flagler County, so we can take criminals like this off the streets,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “Our technology and crime fighting strategy is working and today it took a fugitive parolee off the streets that has been on the run for three years. He came to the wrong county. Great work by our deputies and detectives!”

Due to the extensive fraudulent activity that appears to be taking place by this individual, FCSO Detectives are continuing the investigation and working with local, state, and federal partners. Additional charges are pending further investigation.

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