

Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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FCSO Undercover Operation Leads to Drug House Closure – One Arrested on Multiple Charges

On December 30, 2021, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) with the assistance of SWAT executed a Narcotics Search Warrant at 89 Pony Express Drive in Palm Coast, resulting in the arrest of Russell Laster (DOB: 1/6/1972). The Search Warrant stemmed from a previous undercover operation conducted by SIU.



During the search, deputies seized .22g of gray powdery substance in the master bedroom along with several items of drug paraphernalia. The powdery substance tested positive for Fentanyl. Detectives also recovered a smoking device containing gray powdery residue and a digital scale with a clear plastic baggie. As evidence was being removed from the bedroom, Laster uttered "that weed and shit is mine."

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"This just goes to show you that we will continue to shut down illegal drug operations and houses," Sheriff Staly said. "Our SIU and SWAT team did another great job and now he has new accommodations to welcome in the New Year at the Green Roof Inn. If you want to sell or buy illegal drugs in Flagler County, we will find you and we will bring you to jail. If you suspect drug dealing that is ruining your quality of life in your neighborhood, send us a tip to Tips@flaglersheriff.com."

Laster was arrested and transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility without incident. He's being charged with Possession of Fentanyl with Intent to Sell and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He's being held on a \$5,500 bond.

Additional charges are pending as the investigation is ongoing.

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