



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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FCSO Nabs Jewelry Store Thief



A Ponte Vedra man is in the Flagler County Inmate Facility at this hour after attempting to steal a \$6,000 necklace from Kay's Jewelers in Palm Coast.

20-year-old Dominic Angelo Conte walked into the retail jewelry store just before 7 p.m. Sunday night. Posing as a customer, Conte told a store employee he was a professional boxer and was interested in seeing an IOK Cuban Link Necklace. Shortly after Conte was handed the necklace, he ran out the front door. The store employee attempted to follow him out the door, but would lose sight of him a short time later.

After calling into 911 and providing FCSO with a description of Conte, Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) deputies would find Conte in the parking lot of the Flagler Palm Coast High School gymnasium. Once Conte saw the deputies, he would attempt to escape. Deputies would find him moments later behind the school cafeteria where he was taken into custody. A search of Conte would reveal the missing necklace with the price tag still attached.

Deputies confirmed Conte as the suspect when they drove him back to the store for employees to identify him. The investigation would reveal that Conte parked his car near the Flagler County Airport hangars and walked to Kay's Jewelers with the intention of stealing this particular necklace which he had researched in advance.

Conte would later reveal he was from Jacksonville and the Palm Coast Kay Jewelers was his intended target due to fewer customers and the location being open later than other locations.

"This thief thought he would come into our community thinking one of our businesses would be an

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easy target,” FCSO Sheriff Rick Staly said. “However, the quick thinking of the employees and our deputies made this crook an easy catch. This should serve as notice to anyone else who has ideas of committing crimes in our county. You better look somewhere else. Your trip to Flagler County will end behind bars.”

Conte faces charges of Grand Theft over \$5,000, Trespassing on School Grounds and Resisting an Officer Without Violence. He is being held in the Green Roof Inn on \$6,500 bond.

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