



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Update: November 9, 2022

Prepared by: Messod Bendayan, Public Affairs Office

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Update: Man Involved In Nursing Home Death Declared Incompetent To Stand Trial

BUNNELL, FL – A resident at a Palm Coast assisted living facility who was charged with the murder of another resident at that same facility last May has been declared incompetent to stand trial.

72-year-old Cliff Mody has been released from custody to the care of a family member following an order from a Flagler County judge signed on October 6, 2022. That order declared Mody incompetent to stand trial for second-degree murder due to Major Neurocognitive Disorder, also known as dementia. Mody was released from involuntary hospitalization since he no longer meets the criteria to be held legally.

"It's a very sad situation," said Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families involved, especially the victim's family. I continue to encourage anyone who wants to send family members to an assisted living care facility to do their research and ensure the safety of that family member before they move in."

Mody was charged with the death of a 77-year-old woman on May 11, 2022 at the Gold Choice Assisted Living & Memory Care facility on North Old Kings Road.

Original update and news release below.

Date: May 11, 2022

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Release #: 2022-127

Update: FCSO Makes Arrest in Nursing Home Death, Mody Charged with Second-Degree Murder

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The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) has arrested 72-year-old Cliff Mody and charged him with Second-Degree Murder in the death of a 77-year-old resident at the Gold Choice Assisted Living & Memory Care facility in Palm Coast.

FCSO Major Case Unit (MCU) Detectives arrested Mody just before 5 p.m., Wednesday after an all-day investigation that began 15 hours earlier. MCU Detective James Crosbee worked the case and remained at Gold Choice for the entire investigation, helping keep the crime scene secure and the residents safe.

"This arrest is the result of a thorough on-scene investigation by our Major Case Unit at this facility," Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families involved and we worked hard to make sure the suspect is held accountable for his actions. Families need to know that their loved ones are safe when they are moved into the care of any facility and I encourage them to always conduct thorough facility research. I commend Detective Crosbee and the team that assisted him in bringing this case to a quick closure."

Mody is currently being booked into the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility on no bond.

Original Release Date: May 11, 2022

Original Release #: 2022-127

A Woman Found Dead, Apparently Beaten by another Resident in Nursing Home

A homicide investigation is underway after deputies responded to a call around 2 a.m. at the Gold Choice Assisted Living & Memory Care facility on N. Old Kings Road, Palm Coast. The victim was found beaten in the room of another resident, identified as 72-year-old Cliff Mody. Mody admitted to killing the victim.

Facility staff contacted the Sheriff's 9-1-1 Dispatch Center advising that Mody told them he'd beaten a woman to death in his room. Deputies arrived to find the female victim on the bed in the suspect's room with facial injuries, not breathing and unconscious. She was pronounced deceased on the scene by paramedics.

"This is an unfortunate situation for all families involved, especially the victim's," Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly said. "The Major Case Unit is still working the investigation and charges are pending. This is a very sad outcome for the victim and her family and our thoughts and prayers are with her family."

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office strongly encourages residents to thoroughly investigate any facility

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entrusted with the care of a family member. Research facilities and professionals by visiting www.FloridaHealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation.

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