



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Friday, August 16, 2018

Contact: Anna Hackett; (386) 281-9880 ahackett@flaglersheriff.com

Suspect Grabs a Gun and tries to Assault Deputy During a Traffic Stop

A traffic stop on a vehicle for a stop sign violation turned into a four count felony arrest after a convicted felon pulls a gun during a traffic stop and had possibly planned to shoot a Flagler County Deputy or commit "suicide by cop."

Flagler Deputy Smith (FCSO) conducted a traffic stop on a black Ford sedan on N. Church St. and E. Howe St., in Bunnell. The driver, later identified as Alphonso Brooks, seemed unusually nervous. During the traffic stop Bunnell Officer Hirschi (BPD) arrived to assist along with FCSO K-9 Deputy Duenas. Deputy Duenas deployed his K-9 partner, Valor, to perform an exterior narcotic search on the vehicle. Valor indicated the possible presence of narcotics in the vehicle. Brooks was requested to exit the vehicle. As Brooks was exiting the vehicle, Deputy Smith and Officer Hirschi observed Brooks reach back in to the driver's seat and grab a firearm in his hand as he began exiting the vehicle and attempted to conceal it from law enforcement's view. As he stood up, the grip of the pistol was grasped in his right palm with his fingers wrapped around the grip, consistent with how a firearm is fired. Deputy Smith immediately began to yell "GUN! GUN! GUN!" and drew his firearm from its holster.

Deputy Duenas pinned Brooks against the frame of the vehicle as the firearm became dislodged from Brooks' grip and fell to the ground. Deputy Smith confirmed the safety of the other law enforcement officers, secured the suspect and the firearm. Brooks was arrested for aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of ammunition by a convicted felon and carrying a concealed firearm. Brooks was booked into the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility on \$50,000 bond.

"This encounter could have quickly become a deputy involved shooting caused by the suspect's actions," said Sheriff Staly. "Deputies Duenas and Smith along with Bunnell Officer Hirshi showed great restraint and are safe because of their training and teamwork. This could have had a very different outcome with the death of Brooks or a deputy of officer."

*Proudly Serving the Community for 100 Years – Centennial Anniversary 1917 - 2017
An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



Brooks has a criminal history of:
11/13/1997- Lewd or Lascivious Molest/ Conduct/ Exhibition
07/11/2002- Aggravated Battery - Person uses a deadly Weapon

Body camera video of the encounter can be viewed at
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/uo98r8yi2aatcmq/Alphonso%20Brooks%20Arrest.mp4?dl=0>

###

Proudly Serving the Community for 100 Years – Centennial Anniversary 1917 - 2017
An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



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