

Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 17, 2023

Prepared by: Ava Hanner, Public Affairs Office
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Release #: 2023 - 58

Fugitive Todd Blanched Located, Arrested at CR302 Drug House after SWAT Stand-Off



BUNNELL, FL - On Friday, March 17, 2023, District 3 deputies conducted surveillance on the closed drug house located at 1455 C.R. 302. Todd Blanchard, who was known to be the resident of this address and subject of several warrants, was seen in the front yard before retreating back into the trailer when he spotted deputies.

Sheriff Staly, the FCSO SWAT Team, and an FCSO Crisis Negotiator responded to the scene to remove Blanchard from within the trailer. After making several announcements to come out and Blanchard refusing, Sheriff Staly authorized two rounds of tear gas to be deployed into the trailer. A few minutes later Blanchard exited and was safely taken into custody. Flagler County Fire-Rescue was on scene and checked Blanchard for any medical issues from the stand-off before he was taken to the Sheriff Perry

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Hall Inmate Detention Facility.

Blanchard was arrested on outstanding warrants for Possession of Fentanyl, Possession of Cocaine, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia/Equipment and new charges stemming from the SWAT stand-off of Resisting an Officer Without Violence. Blanchard is being held on \$65,500 bond.

"We gave this guy a chance to surrender, and he chose not to cooperate," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "We were not going to play around with him anymore, so we did some westside home remodeling to safely deploy tear gas and not risk our deputies and SWAT team members or the community. The courts need to quit giving him chances and send him to prison. The nearby residents need to be able to live peacefully without a poison peddler in their neighborhood."

To view video from today's arrest: https://bit.ly/3Jp0J9G

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CR302 Drug House Closed by FCSO...Again!

BUNNELL, FL – On Wednesday, March 15, 2023, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Special Investigations Unit (SIU), SWAT Team, and Sheriff Staly served a narcotics-related search warrant at 1455 C.R. 302. This search warrant stemmed from a previous undercover operation conducted by SIU.

During the execution of the search warrant, detectives seized cocaine, fentanyl, and drug paraphernalia. The target of the search warrant, Todd Blanchard was not on scene but is now a fugitive wanted for several narcotics-related charges. Blanchard's previous criminal history includes Lewd and Lascivious Molestation of a Victim Under 12, Trafficking Fentanyl, and Possession of Cocaine with Intent to Sell/Manufacture/Deliver, among others.

On Thursday, March 9, 2023, the Special Investigations Unit conducted surveillance at 1455 C.R. 302. A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle leaving the address after detectives observed activity consistent with narcotics sales. SIU obtained an arrest warrant for Robert Elkins for trafficking methamphetamine after approximately 14.10 grams were located inside his vehicle on the traffic stop.

On Wednesday, March 15, 2023, the Problem Area Crime Enforcement (PACE) Unit and Deputy Prevatt located and arrested Elkins on the Flagler County warrant. Elkins was located with another 15 grams of methamphetamine on his person. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility and later released after posting \$75,000 bond. Elkins previous criminal history includes DUI and several Domestic Violence related charges.

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Robert Elkins (Flagler County Jail Mugshot)

"Another great job by our SWAT and SIU Unit," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "This repeat poison peddler won't turn his life around, so he needs to go to prison before he kills someone by selling a lethal dose of his poison. We are actively looking for Todd Blanchard. Not only is he a sex offender, but he is also a poison peddler spreading poison throughout Flagler County."



Todd Blanchard (Previous Flagler County Jail Mugshot)

Anyone with information on Blanchard's whereabouts is asked to call FCSO at 386-313-4911, email FCSO at Tips@FlaglerSheriff.com, or call CrimeStoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477).



View video from the search warrant here: https://bit.ly/3ZU8QC1

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