



Rick Staly, Sheriff  
**FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

## NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Friday, October 6, 2017

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### **Stolen Firearm Recovered, Felon Arrested**

A report filed on September 1 regarding a stolen firearm resulted in a search warrant and arrest Thursday afternoon.

James Black reported that he and another party were working with Charles Swindell in an empty wooded lot at the intersection of Secretary Trail and Seckel Court on August 28 picking palmetto berries. While working, Black left his firearm inside his vehicle. Upon driving home that evening, Black noticed his firearm was missing. He reported the stolen firearm to the Flagler County Sheriff's Office.

Several weeks later Black notified the Sheriff's office that he had received phone calls and text messages from Swindell stating that Swindell had the firearm in his possession and would sell it back to Black for \$250.00. Detectives from the Sheriff's Special Investigations Unit gathered enough probable cause for a search warrant and executed the search warrant Thursday afternoon.

The firearm, with matching serial number, was located in Swindell's home and Swindell was taken into custody. The firearm will be returned to Black.

"I'm glad we were able to take a gun from the hands of a four-time convicted felon," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Hopefully he's in for a long stay at the Green Roof Inn and state prison." As a four-time convicted felon, Swindell is eligible for career criminal prosecution with enhanced penalties up to life in prison.

Charles Swindell, DOB 3/13/1970, was arrested for burglary of a conveyance, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, violation of injunction, and dealing in stolen property.

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